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THE

PALL MALL GAZETTE

No. 7782.—Vol. L. WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 26, 1890. Price One Penny.

USE

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TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE. (The National Theatre.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.15, and EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY at 1.30, AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S Pantomime, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, produced on a scale of splendour surpassing in magnificence the displays offered to the public by Mr. AUGUSTUS HARRIS in previous years, and performed by a company of Komedians each of whom is an acknowledged attraction in himself—Messrs. Nicholls, Leno, Lauri, jun., Griffiths Brothers, Conquest, jun., Leopold Brothers, Abbs, Payne, (Clown), and Campbell; Misses. Vernon, Faudelle, Hewitt, Æneas, Clay, and Duggan. Box-office open from 10 a.m. all day.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A MAN'S SHADOW, by ROBERT BUCHANAN. Mr. TREE as LAROQUE and LUVERSAC. Messrs. Fernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, E. M. Robson, Allan, Hargreaves, Tapping, Gurney, Harwood; Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. At 7.45, GOOD FOR NOTHING; Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. Pit Circle (unreserved), 2s. 6d. Gallery, 1s.

MATINEE of A MAN'S SHADOW SATURDAY NEXT and following Saturday, at 2.30.

SPECIAL WEDNESDAY MATINEE of THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR (Mr. Tree as Falstaff) TO-DAY, at 2.30.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

THE DEAD HEART—A Story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at Eight o'clock (128th time). Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Richton's speech; Miss Phillips and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.45.—LYCEUM.

CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.30, OUR BOYS. Mr. Lloyd James, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Arthur Elwood, Mr. E. W. Gardiner; Mesdames Olga Brandon, E. Brunton, F. Frances, E. Vining. Preceded by, at 7.50, SWEETHEART, GOOD-BYE. Messrs. Scott Buist, H. Saker, G. Stanton, L. Chippet; Mesdames E. Terrie, E. Brunton, E. Vining. Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINÉE of OUR BOYS SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open at 2 o'clock.

GAIETY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Miss Marion Hood, Miss Sylvia Grey, Miss Lizzie Price, Miss Blanche Massey, and Miss Lucy Lind; Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. Fred. Storey, Mr. Dalton Somers. Doors open at 7.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

(Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)

(Management, Miss GRAHAME.)

TO-NIGHT, at 9, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley, Bernard Gould, W. Lestock, and F. Kerr. Mesdames Cissy Grahame, Houston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.15 THE PARTING OF THE WAYS. Mesdames M. A. Giffard, Helen Leyton, Rose Dearing, Oscar Adye, and Nelson. Doors open at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.

TO-DAY at 3, and TO-NIGHT at 9, THE BUNGALOW, by FRED HORNER. The greatest success of modern times. Laughter and merriment from beginning of to end. At 2.15 and 8.15, ISALDA. Doors open at 2 and 7.45. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.15. Doors open at 2.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LONDON DAY BY DAY. Immense success. 153rd Time. Mr. George Alexander, Messrs. Marius, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Theo. Balfour, M. Bode, H. Russell, James Kelly, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)

THIS EVENING, at 8, CLARISSA. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. T. B. Thalberg, Cyril Maude, Oswald Yorke, J. S. Blythe, Harbury, F. Grove, F. Gillmore, and Fred Thorne; Mesdames Winifred Emery, Mary Collette, G. Owen, L. Hyden, Weymiss, Lily Hanbury, and Miss Banister. MATINEE of CLARISSA SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. R. BENSON.)

EVERY EVENING, at 8 (Thursdays and Fridays excepted), A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, with the Mendelssohn Incidental Music. Messrs. Bryden, Miller, Benson, Rees, Howard, Athol Forde, Black, Weir, Phillips, Tomkins, Grenville, Stuart; Mesdames Grey, Ferrar, Dene, Geraldine, Townsend, Webster, Middleton, Mischelson. MATINÉES EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30. N.B.—LAST TWO PERFORMANCES OF THE TAMING OF THE SHREW NEXT THURSDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS, at 8.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

MASTER AND MAN.

TO-DAY at 2.30 and THIS EVENING, at 7.45, HENRY PETTITT and GEORGE R. SIMS' powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which the following popular artists will appear:—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Rosett, Roe, Fred Shepherd, George Dobell, E. Rogers; Mesdames Lewis; Miss Edith Bruce, Mrs. Frank Huntley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open 7.15. Commence 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Frye) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mrs. Langtry.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8, AS YOU LIKE IT. Mrs. Langtry; Mesdames M'Neil, Lea, Leigh, Armbruster, &c.; Messrs. Cawley, Beauclerc, Speaker, Fulton, Brodie, Forbes, Coy, Lewis, Cannings, Lawford, Grover, Lugham, Arncliffe, Erlynne, Yorke, &c.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Amadi and Miss Camille d'Arville; Messrs. Hayden Coffin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Albert James, T. A. Shale, A. T. Hendon, and Harry Monkhouse. Preceded at 7.30 by ALL ABROAD. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Telephone No 3,703.

GARRICK THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN HARE.)

THIS EVENING, at 9, THE SPECTACLES. Mr. John Hare, Mr. C. Groves, Mr. R. Cathcart, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. C. Dodsworth, Mr. F. H. Knight, Mr. R. Harding, Mr. Byron, Miss Blanche Horlock, Miss Harwood, Miss Kate Rorke, Preceded, at ten minutes past 8, by DREAM FACES. Mr. J. Forbes Robertson, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. S. Pringle; Mrs. Blanche Horlock and Miss Carlotta Addison (specially engaged) will appear. Doors open 7.40. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Acting Manager, Mr. C. G. COMPTON.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

Messrs. E. S. WILLARD and JOHN LART, Lessees and Managers. Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER.

THIS EVENING at 8, THE MIDDLEMAN.

Mr. Willard, Messrs. Mackintosh, E. W. Garden, H. Cane, H. V. Esmond, Ivan Watson, Cecil Crofton, Royston Keith; Mesdames Maude Millett, Annie Hughes, E. H. Brooke, Annie Hill, St. Aubyn, Eva Moore, &c. Box-office now open daily, 10 to 5. Doors open 7.40. Carriages 11. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. GRIFFITHS.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

LYRIC THEATRE.

(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. HENRY J. LESLIE.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.0, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Mary Tempest, Birdie Irving, Maud Holland, H. Coveney, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Ben Davies, Alec Marsh, Albert Christian, J. Le Hay, Frank M. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30, by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING, at 8.15, the celebrated Comedy FINK DOMINOS, adapted by JAMES ALBERY, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby A. Bouchaud, &c., and H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Gobbey, Robertson, Sewell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box-office open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Telephone, 3,784.

COURT THEATRE.

(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)

TO-NIGHT at 8, 202nd performance of AUNT JACK. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. F. Mervin, Mr. Fred Cape, Mr. A. Aynsworth, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. F. Farren, Mr. Powell; Mr. W. Quarmby, Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Florence Wood, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.15, TO THE RESCUE, Mr. R. Boleyn, Mr. F. Farren. Mrs. H. Hemsley and Mrs. Phelps. N.B.—TWO SPECIAL MATINÉES of AUNT JACK SATURDAYS, March 1 and 8. Doors open at 2, commence at 2.30.

AVENUE THEATRE.

(Under the Management of Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, FOOLS' MATE. At 9, DR. BILL.

Messrs. Frederick Terry, Nutcombe Gould, Benjamin Webster, George Capel, Henry Gattan and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Marie Linden, Carlotta Leclercq, Marie Linden, Mary Kingsley, Gracie Murielle, Laura Graves, Edith Kenward, and Fanny Brough. Doors open 7.45.

MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, and SPECIAL MATINÉE WEDNESDAY, March 5, at 2.30. Doors open 2 o'clock. Box-office open daily from 10.30 till 5.

Business Manager, Mr. R. D'ALBERTON.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.

"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "OUR ARMY AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signorina Beatrice Mollino, Mlle. Morgana, Mlle. Lucille Spotti, and Signor Lucchesi, Varieties by the BRUCE and RIVIERE, the Sisters Lloyd, Marvelle's Boarhounds and the Dog "Rags," the Albert and Edmunds' Troupe, Arthur Tinsley, Arthur Lavers, Marie Collins, the Eddy's Troupe, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, and JAMES FAWN. Open 7.45 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.

Commence at 8. Two Grand Ballets. At 8.0 THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.30, A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. KATTE LANNER. Music by M. LEONARD WEXBER. Misses Fullerton and Bertina de Senna, Messrs. Espinosa and Signorina Malvina Cavalazzi. Grand Variety Entertainment. At 10, Miss Amy Roselle will recite THE DANDY FIFTH; A STORY OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR," by FRANK GASSAWAY. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.

GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—Special engagement of Lockhart's performing Elephants, C. H. Mackintosh, the popular actor and vocalist; Lydia Yeamans, queen of song; the Manzotos, in a novel musical absurdity; Vosburg, the wonderful jap; the Brantfords, American variety artists; Chaney and Pepper; Alf. Daniels, musical clown; Dora Fielding; Arthur Tinsley; Perez, the marvellous mimic; May and Addie, statuesque dancers; Nine Lauris; Dora Brandon, comedienne; Mazzi, equilibrist; G. Beresford, comic; Prof. Wingfield's Dogs; Ryan and Richfield; Nicky Chapman, Conway and Pepper; and others.

EVENINGS at 7.30; SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30. Prices of admission from 6d. to 2s.

OUT OF THEIR OWN MOUTHS.

We congratulate Lord SELBORNE sincerely on the tone and temper of his speech to the Liberal Union upon the Parnell Report. Under ordinary circumstances it might seem to be unnecessary, if not impertinent, to congratulate a public man who has held judicial and ministerial office upon preserving in his utterances on a grave public question some show of impartiality and responsibility. But the indecent haste exhibited by Sir RICHARD WEBSTER to repeat as Attorney-General the *ex parte* version which he had been hired as private counsel to put forward, and the intemperate zeal displayed by Mr. CHAPLIN in following the lead, show that the possession of a cool head and of a balanced judgment is a thing on which even the most eminent Unionists may properly be congratulated. The *Times* highly approves Lord SELBORNE's speech. For once we agree with the *Times*, for the excellent reason that Lord SELBORNE agrees with us. His summary of the Report is precisely to the same effect as that which we gave on the morrow of its publication. Some of the charges were proved, others disproved. The disproved charges were all those which were new and personal. The proved charges are all purely political, and deal only with facts of which "most of us may perhaps think that we had some correct notion before," and on which "the whole of us have been proceeding all this time." The new, not true; the true, not new. That is the summary of Lord SELBORNE's summary of the Report.

There are, it will be seen, two propositions which we have to illustrate in order to justify our summary of Lord SELBORNE: (1) that he holds the personal charges were all disproved, (2) that the proved charges are purely political. The third proposition (3), that these latter charges are all old, we shall illustrate lower down out of the mouth of other Unionist witnesses. As for the former point, one extract will suffice to prove Lord SELBORNE's view:—

> The gentlemen who were affected by them were, and are, perfectly entitled to draw for themselves their own line between those things to which they will and those things to which they will not give their countenance. They are perfectly entitled to the benefit of exoneration from charges affecting them which went beyond that line.

Not only have they been exonerated from the Phœnix Park and Invincible charges, Lord SELBORNE goes on to say, but they have also been cleared from any direct and personal complicity with any crime or outrage whatever. On one point in this connection, Lord SELBORNE gives a dignified rebuke to the scandalous attempt made by Mr. CHAPLIN and others to interpret "not proven" as "guilty." He says:—

> To be perfectly candid, it does appear to me that when it is positively found that they did not directly incite to the commission of crime other than intimidation it is very difficult to believe that under these circumstances they would actually make payments to persons for the commission of crime, and therefore, though that is said to be "not proven," I confess I should not draw, myself, much distinction on that point between the "not proven" and the absolute acquittal.

This is only common sense and English justice; but specimens of either have been so rare in the Unionist commentaries on the Report that Lord SELBORNE's speech has in this respect all the charm of novelty. The Unionist ex-Lord Chancellor admits, then, to the fullest possible extent—that the pith and marrow of the *Times* case, the assertion, namely, of the Attorney-General that "direct incitement to outrage and murder" would be fixed upon the Irish members—has been entirely disposed of. Considered from the personal point of view, the Report is a verdict of "absolute acquittal."

As for the second point, that the proved charges are in Lord SELBORNE's view political: this also admits of easy illustration. The Irish Party "conspired" to reduce rents; some of them were once avowed Fenians; all of them advocated boycotting; none of them refused help from the American-Irish. Such, in the main, is what the Report holds as proved, and Lord SELBORNE admits to the full that the issues involved are all political issues. Indeed, the contention that they are so was really the whole drift of his speech. He began with it when he said that the proved charges affected, not the characters of persons, but "the general system which affects the general welfare of the whole of the community." He ended with it when in mentioning Mr. DAVITT as the man who most conspicuously illustrated the evils (from the Unionist standpoint) of that "general system," he expressly extolled Mr. DAVITT's "straightforwardness" and "eminent honesty." Let the Unionists follow the Judges in calling the Irish members "criminal conspirators" and "traitors" as much as they like; but let them follow Lord SELBORNE in frankly recognizing that the facts beneath those words are political and not personal.

That they are also stale facts was most obligingly demonstrated for us yesterday not only incidentally by Lord SELBORNE, but expressly by Baron DE WORMS. This gentleman has written a letter to his Liverpool constituents, in which he discusses at length the findings of the Commission, and his main contention is this, that those findings corroborate what Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues said when in office. We agree. But why leave out Lord SALISBURY, who knew all that Mr. GLADSTONE knew; and, knowing it, went down to Newport to palliate boycotting and allowed Lord CARNARVON to go and confer with that arch "criminal" Mr. PARNELL? That, however, is by the way. Baron DE WORMS's witness is substantially true; and out of their own mouths, therefore, we have it that what was new in the *Times* charges was not true, and what was true was not new.

IMPERIAL TELEGRAPHS AND BRITISH TRADE.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MR. J. HENNIKER HEATON, M.P.

IF the member for Canterbury, with his "ocean penny postage" and cheap Imperial telegrams, succeeds by his persistence in convincing the British public that their trade interests are at stake, we shall speedily have the reforms for which he is contending. Many, no doubt, think that it is a mere matter of sentiment—that is, the cultivation of social letter writing between the distant parts of the Empire. But the agitation has a more tangible—if less ideally worthy—purpose than that, and by presenting the commercial aspect of the question we may help to convert those who weigh everything by the gold or trade standard.

A SET OF "LONG-HEADED MONOPOLISTS."

I found Mr. Henniker Heaton (writes our representative) in his library at his residence in Eaton-square, surrounded with Blue-books bearing on the all-absorbing topic and the resources of the Empire. Nothing loth to discuss the question in any phase, Mr. Heaton at once enlarged on the harm done to our trade by the present prohibitory rates for telegrams. "I dealt very fully," he said, "with the telegraph question as well as the penny postage in my address at the Society of Arts and as I there showed, in business the telegraph is rapidly supplanting the mail. Within the United Kingdom the number of telegraph messages now sent annually exceeds the number of letters carried by the mail-coaches of fifty years ago. The case of international communication is, however, entirely different. A marvellous invention, whereby the natural obstacles of space and time are annihilated, has been selfishly appropriated by a number of long-headed monopolists, and 999 out of every 1,000 men are absolutely debarred from the use of it. The cable system between England, India, South Africa, the East, Australia, and New Zealand exists for the benefit of the Eastern Telegraph Company, and not for the good of the public. The Company's lines run only to India, but practically it is identical with the Eastern Extension Company, whose lines run to Australia, the Straits Settlements, China and Japan, and with the Eastern and South African Company, with lines running to Zanzibar and the Cape. Sir John Pender, the wily spider at the centre of this vast web, has so distributed it, that it is difficult to oust him from his position of supremacy. It is not only that his companies have the only line to Australia, but he has made it almost impossible for any other line to be laid with a prospect of profit. Thus lines might be constructed from Australia to the Straits, Ceylon, or the Cape, but every one would simply feed the Eastern Company.

PROHIBITORY RATES.

"With what facility can you expect the ordinary everyday operations of trade to be carried on when we must pay to the Cape 8*s.* 11*d.* per word, to Australia 8*s.* 4*d.*, and to New Zealand 10*s.* 6*d.*, while to some points the charge are 27*s.* per word? The result is that the telegraph is sparingly employed for the purposes of Government, and still more sparingly by a few wealthy firms. These rates make cable messages enormously costly. I may mention that one despatch from Australia to England cost £1,400; another £1,200, a short message of 58 words cost me £30; and it is no uncommon occurrence for a member of the Australian Government or an Australian merchant to send a message at a cost of from £100 to £200. Last year no less than half a million sterling was expended on cable messages to India and the East

ART NOTES.

The annual dinner of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water-colours, which will be held in the Institute galleries in Piccadilly, has been fixed for the 12th of March.

* * * * *

Mr. Herbert Schmalz left England on Friday last for Jerusalem, whither he has gone for the purpose of making studies for a large religious picture which he has had in his mind for some time. His contributions to this year's Academy will be important neither in respect to size or subject, "only portraits and odds and ends" having latterly occupied his brush. Mr. Schmalz is a man of ambition, and looks forward to making a big artistic success.

* * * * *

Those who are desirous of possessing a memorial of the late Chief Rabbi will be interested to hear that the London Stereoscopic Company have reproduced the oil portrait by Mr. B. S. Marks, of the late Dr. Adler in various sizes. This picture was presented by Lord Rothschild to the Council of the United Synagogue.

* * * * *

An admirable piece of translating-etching has been executed in this country by Mr. William Hole, R.S.A., of Millet's famous "Wood Sawyers." It renders with fidelity the breadth, the colour, and the sentiment of the original picture. At first sight, I would say it is a little too dark, and that certain peculiarities of drawing in the original are a little too much insisted upon; but I speak from memory, and being impressed, as all must be who examine this plate, with the power of Mr. Hole to reproduce exactly what he sees, I am ready to admit that he is right and I am wrong. Not only are the tones and values set forth with the needle with as much truth and certainty as the action and the swing of the figures, but every touch of the brush is etched with a sure freedom.

* * * * *

Mr. Hole's last work, after a picture of Cromer, made his compeers open their eyes, but this new plate is even better, partly on account of the difficulties that have been overcome, and partly because of the ease with which the result has apparently been achieved in the plate.

* * * * *

Mr. Alfred East's exhibition of pictures and drawings of Japanese scenery will be on view to the general public on Monday next, at the galleries of the Fine Art Society. From all reports, Mr. East's collection is likely to rival Mr. Menpes's in point of success, no less in the commercial than in the artistic aspect of the case.

* * * * *

To-day and during the week there will be sold at Messrs. Sotheby's room the collection of the late Mr. G. W. Reid, who was, till a short time before his death, Keeper of the Print Room in the British Museum. His portfolios were full of fine engravings by, and after, the great masters, as well as a considerable number of original drawings. Connoisseurs should by no means miss this sale.

* * * * *

It will be of interest to a number of English artists, who were victimized by the official connected with the fine art section of the Buenos Ayres Exhibition of 1887, to know that their French *confrères* are not at all disposed to sit down and nurse their grievance. Under the presidency of M. Français the have met and determined to use every means in their power to recover the pictures or their value. But are they not a little sanguine, Messieurs, the French artists? "First catch your thief."

* * * * *

The object of the Royal Society of Painter-Etchers being not merely the restoration of original etching, but the reinfusion into all forms of the engraver's art the painter-like qualities which to a great extent it has lost, it has been determined to include in each annual exhibition of the works of its Fellows typical examples by one or other of the great masters of etching, beginning the forthcoming exhibition, which opens to the public on March 3, with the Rembrandt.

* * * * *

The "Stirling-Lee incident" has entered a new, and, it should be a pleasant phase. Impatient at the unwillingness of the Liverpool town council to out their word and possess themselves of the sculpture they commissioned which the whole Art world has accepted as works of genius with one voice, Mr. Philip Rathbone has, with characteristic generosity, offered the following panels to the town as a free gift, the money value of which is about £1,000. That the initial opposition of the council was originally a mere matter of pique is evident from the fact that for a year after the first panel was placed on the wall of St. George's Hall no objection was made, and it was only after the completion of the second was announced, while it had not yet been unveiled, that fault was first found with number one. In these circumstances Mr. Rathbone has offered to pay all expenses, and it would appear that the council, for how can they, after the fully-signed contract was sent in, still insist that the panels are bad? and, still less, how can they refuse a gift, offered not to themselves, but to the City of Liverpool, at once so generous and honourable?

and £360,000 was expended in cable messages to or from Australia, or at the rate of £1,000 per day. The average price of every cable message to Sydney or Melbourne is over £6. Colonists in England frequently complain of the meagre telegraphic intelligence sent to English newspapers regarding Australian affairs, and I think they do so with good reason considering the magnitude of their business transactions, the thousands of Australians who reside in this country, and the thousands of Englishmen who maintain business relations with Australia. £20,000 a year at least is expended by the Australian newspaper proprietors in wire and other charges for press telegrams from England to Australia, but I do not believe that £250 is expended on telegrams from Australia to England by the English press. The long and interesting telegrams which appeared from day to day during the sittings of the Federation Congress in Melbourne were paid for by the Australian Governments. All this is so much clear proof of a prohibitive tariff, while as for the telegraph companies their shares are quoted at from 15 to 40 per cent. premium, and, afraid to declare too large dividends, they have accumulated a large reserve fund and an enormous store of surplus cable.

BUY THEM OUT OR COMPETE.

"To give the trade of the Empire the facilities it should enjoy, this monopoly must be broken down. The companies must be bought out by the Government at a reasonable price. If they refuse to be reasonable, then competing lines can be laid. One proposal, which was considered at the last Colonial Conference, was to lay a cable from Australia viâ Fiji to Vancouver, the Pacific terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and there connect it with the line through Canada and across the Atlantic to Valentia. In a paper which I read before the Colonial Institute two years ago, I described this route and showed that it would extend over 8,900 miles, while the cost would be £2,000,000. I proposed also to acquire the Eastern Extension Company's cable for a sum of £2,200,000. The two undertakings would thus cost £4,200,000. The purchase of the Eastern Extension Company's lines would extinguish subsidies now paid by the colonies to the amount of £56,700 a year; and the net result, I proved, was that the total annual charge for the acquisition of complete Governmental control over the Asiatic and Pacific telegraph routes would be £65,900. The first result of these operations would be an immediate reduction of rates. Telegrams could even now be profitably sent between England and Australia for 1s. per word. With reduced rates, Sir John Pender thinks, the Imperial telegraphs, taken as a whole, would yield a profit of a million a year.

FROM CALAIS TO CALCUTTA.

"With respect to India, I want a land line all the way from Calais to Calcutta. Mr. Charles Pitman, the superintendent of the Government telegraphs in the Bombay Presidency, has suggested a scheme which, I consider, well deserves the attention of the Government and the mercantile class. He considers one or two lines might be easily and rapidly constructed by the State which would complete the telegraphic land communication between England and India, and yield a handsome profit on the outlay. Mr. Pitman thinks that the present heavy charge of 6s. per word for messages to India can fairly be reduced to 1s. a word; but I believe a still lower figure might be adopted. As the United Kingdom takes 55 per cent. of the total trade of India, and our exports to that country increase to the extent of millions of pounds every year, the advantages to commerce by such a reduction can be imagined.

"There are at present four telegraphic routes to India, which may shortly be described as the Suez, Teheran, Bagdad, and Vladivostock routes. The Bagdad line is so defective, and the Vladivostock one, through Siberia, so long and expensive, that they are rarely used, and India is practically served by the Suez and Teheran routes only. These, although well manned and worked, have two drawbacks. They are dear; and submerged sections involve considerable expenditure for repairs, besides being very liable to interruptions. It would be clearly better to have a land line from the other side of the Channel to Calcutta and Bombay. Several alternative routes have been proposed, but the two Mr. Pitman prefers are—(1) an overland line of telegraph through Southern Afghanistan to join the Indian system terminating at Chaman, and the Russian system, which has been extended to a point near Penjdeh; and (2) a line from Fao to Constantinople, the lines from the former place to Kurrachee being multiplied. These may be shortly described as the Afghan and the Turkish routes. The former, passing over Russian soil, would be exposed to interruption in time of war; but, as Mr. Pitman points out, we are not at war with Russia for more than two years in a century, and it is certain that in case of war commercial operations would to a great extent necessarily cease. Such an extension of Indian telegraphic facilities could not fail to be of immense benefit likewise to the great Australasian Colonies, as well as to important trading centres in the far East, like Singapore, Hong Kong, and the Chinese treaty ports.

"It is for the sake of her trade, as well as her Imperial interests, that I advocate cheaper telegraphic communication between England and her dependencies; and this can only be effected by the acquisition or construction by the State, on behalf of the whole Empire, of a sufficient network of sea and land lines. The Governments and traders of the colonies give me their support; so do the colonial merchants in this country. Telegraph experts, as you will see from what I have told you, think it feasible; the telegraph companies are, I believe, not indisposed to sell at a fair valuation; it would be a good investment for the State, both directly and indirectly; and it is only the inertia of the Post Office which stands in the way of a great reform."

"Consider for a moment the enormous trade of England with her Empire beyond the seas, and the millions of pounds sterling worth of goods purchased and sold every year. Then put the saving of three to six weeks, or for reply three months of time; consider, also, that not social or family messages are impossible to all but the millionaire, and you will see before you a possible Imperial telegraph revenue for her Majesty's Government greater than the Post Office surplus."

THE FAMOUS FASTER.

AN INTERVIEW WITH SIGNOR SUCCI.

LENT has come—the period for corporal mortification—and with it comes Signor Succi to teach us all how to fast. He arrived here on Shrove Tuesday from Antwerp and Brussels, where he has performed successful fasting feats before large numbers of interested spectators, and under the constant surveillance of a distinguished committee of medical men. This is his first visit to London, where he purposes to make public exhibition of his extraordinary powers before crossing the Atlantic to astonish America also. Succi certainly counts as one of the phenomena of the age. He is a short, spare man, of dark complexion, with bright eyes, a nervous manner, and an expression of great energy and determination in his countenance. Power of will, as he asserts, is really his whole secret; it is that which enables him to do what he does. Of this power of will we may read signs in his face. Calling upon Signor Succi at his hotel the other morning (writes a representative), I was shown into the smoking-room, where he received me most cordially.

SIGNOR SUCCI.

"I ought to know English," he began, speaking in Italian, "having met so many of your countrymen out in Africa. It was there that I fell in with Stanley, near the Voami River, where I was hippopotamus-shooting. That was eleven years ago, in my exploring days, before I became a phenomenon and a puzzle to modern science. Why have I come to London? To let English people see what I can do. I intend to fast in public for forty successive days, and during that period I shall fence, swim, have a bout at single-stick; and on the fortieth day I mean to ride on horseback through the streets of London. If I accomplish it, this will be my thirty-third experiment."

"How was it that you first came to think of fasting as a fine art?"—"It was in 1879, when ill with fever at Daresalaam, on the African coast, that I first discovered my capacity for abstinence. I had fasted for several days, and instead of losing strength, I suddenly felt a new force awake within me which the sustained exertion of my will seemed to increase. It is a power like hypnotism, like galvanism, a power which I have gradually learned to create and to control. Solely by my will I am able to abstain from all foods; it is power of will which keeps my brain clear and sustains me during these long fasts. My will is stronger than my body; there you have the whole secret.

"But what of your strange 'Elixir,' distilled from African herbs, which is supposed to give you extraordinary strength?"—"The 'Elixir' is a very simple one. It is a preparation of laudanum, which I take merely to soothe the stomach when pain first sets in. It somewhat resembles chlorodyne, although rather different in taste and far more instantaneous in its effect. I only use it as a pain-killer; it has none of the wonderful properties ascribed to it."

"Have you ever been in London before?"—"No; and I had no idea it was such a charming place. If London only had the climate of Naples, it would be the most beautiful city in the world."

"Where do you think of making your appearance?"—"Well, possibly at the Aquarium; but, so far, nothing has been settled. Last year, when fasting in Paris, I went up the Eiffel Tower on the fifteenth day of my fast. At Rouen, I ascended the cathedral spire on the twelfth day of my fast; and at Brussels only lately I astonished the committee by running up to the top of the Colonne du Congrès in two minutes and a half. It is in this taking of exercise that I differ from other fasting-men, like Tanner and Merlatti. During their periods of fasting they remain supine, inactive; but I can fence and walk, play billiards, climb, and swim; and at the end of my fast am as strong as at the beginning. It is a force, an electric force within me, generated and controlled by my will, that keeps me up. In order to hold out, I absorb electricity just as you absorb oxygen. It was thus that, when sufficiently charged with the fluid, I was able, on the fifteenth day of my fast in Paris, to reach the third platform of the Eiffel Tower. When fasting I can take any quantity of vegetable poison, and it does me no harm whatever. During the last days of fast a mist seems to come before my eyes, and my arms and legs appear to me strangely swollen. Of course this is not the case—only an optical delusion. If I feel any pain in my limbs I can always relieve it by rubbing myself with oil. At the conclusion of my fast I first take a quantity of strong beef-tea, which prepares the stomach to receive food; and then I sit down to a good square meal. All these successive fasts have in no way impaired my digestion, which is just as good as ever it was."

"Look at that pile of doctors' reports," said Signor Succi. "I had them all bound up with the certificates and diplomas awarded to me on various occasions. At Barcelona they gave me a gold medal; in Florence, Milan, and Madrid I obtained *diplomes d'honneur*. Here are some photographs taken of me during different stages of my Milan fasting experiment; and this is a group of the journalists and doctors who formed my surveillance committee in Brussels. There were some big bets about me in Paris during the Exhibition, and a good deal of money has already been staked on the non-performance of my projected fasting feat in London. One Frenchman has bet me a large sum that I shall fail to fast for thirty days, but I mean to surprise him by going without food for forty days. However, there is no reason why I should begin to-day. Shall we go downstairs and have some lunch?" And this despiser of beefsteaks laughingly led the way to the dining-room, saying: "If only all the subjects of our good King Humbert would follow my example, Italy might soon find a way out of her financial difficulties, abolish taxes, and become a flourishing nation."

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The resignation of Mr. Leatham Bright adds a third to the pending by-elections. The centre of interest, however, is still in St. Pancras; for Stoke-upon-Trent is a safe Liberal seat, just as Stamford is supposed to be a safe Tory seat. There is room, however, for some little improvement at Stoke. In 1885 our majority was 1,990; in 1886 it was 1,162. This fall was caused entirely by Liberal abstentions. Mr. Leveson-Gower will be a strong candidate, and we hope he will rally the waverers. Meanwhile Mr. Leatham Bright's retirement is much to be regretted, not merely for the ill-health which has occasioned it, but also as destroying the equilibrium in the House between John Bright's sons. It is sad to think that the only descendant of the old Radical left in the House should be one who sits there by grace of the Tories.

Sir James Fergusson's answer last night about the Berlin Labour Conference does not throw much light on the question in which the public is most interested—namely, whether the restriction of the hours of labour will come within the purview of the English delegates. Here are the terms of the official answer:—

Her Majesty's Government have expressed their willingness to take part in a conference proposed by the German Emperor to examine into grave questions with respect to the welfare of the working classes, the solution of which may be facilitated by international co-operation, in accordance with the principles of legislation accepted in this country.

These phrases are so vague and so arguable that they could be made equally well to cover or to exclude the discussion of the Eight Hours question. If the German Emperor does include it in his agenda paper, it is to be hoped that one at least of the English delegates will be chosen with a view to his knowledge of the conditions of labour in the colonies. Even if his tongue were tied at the Conference, his information would be valuable unofficially.

After an eight days' hearing of the Bishop of Lincoln's case in the historic library of Lambeth Palace, the Archbishop of Canterbury has reserved judgment. The attendance of the general public has testified to the interest in the matter, and yesterday the evangelicals mustered for the first time in considerable numbers. When the decision is given the real crisis, which, though no doubt exaggerated on both sides, may be a very critical one, will arise. Stripped of much verbosity and repetition, the lengthened arguments really leave his Grace three questions to decide—(1) Is the court bound, as Sir Horace Davey contends, by the decisions of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council? (2) If not, may the court regard favourably the contention of Sir Robert Phillimore that, though not ordered, certain rites and ceremonies previously used in the time of the first Prayer Book of Edward VI. are permissible if not actually prohibited? (3) May the court decide the case on its own merits and the circumstances of the times independent of the judgments even of the Arches Court in previous ritual suits?

The Admiralty has taken an admirable step against the wretched system of "tipping" in trade. Questioned last night about the Bell's Asbestos scandal, Lord George Hamilton said:—

A practice so reprehensible and demoralizing requires prompt repudiation on the part of those dealing with the company. The Admiralty contracts with this company terminate on the 30th of June. I have directed a letter to be written to the company informing them that after that date they will not be on the list of Admiralty contractors.

Lord George Hamilton's move is a good one in itself, and incidentally it illustrates a sound principle. There might be two opinions as to whether Government should legislate generally against tipping in trade, but no one will dispute the desirability of Government setting an example by itself discouraging the system. The law is a terror to evildoers, but the State should set an example.

We are glad to see that the Government got their vote for the new Science Museum safely through last night. The scheme, which was explained in these columns not long ago, with a sketch-plan, consists of purchasing from the Exhibition Commissioners (on very favourable terms) a large plot behind the Albert Hall. On this a new Science Museum will be erected, in which the collections at present dispersed (to use an expressive colloquialism) "all over the shop" will be united under a single roof as recommended by the recent Committee. Of course there was the usual grumbling in the House last night about "extravagance." But if the science collections were worth forming at all, it is surely bad economy to stow them in ramshackle sheds, or pack them away in inaccessible cupboards. If Mr. Labouchere had the courage of his convictions he would move to put up all the national collections for sale at Christie's and Sotheby's without more ado.

There is one point about "the new Concordat" which Mr. Chamberlain certainly establishes. Old or new, wise or unwise, it would have the effect of increasing the public cost of elementary education. We do not suppose indeed that anybody will seriously dispute this. We will assume that the arrangement approved of by Mr. Morley would leave town schools as they are; but, in the country villages, to require church schools—as a condition of their Free Schools' grant—either to accept full popular control, or to admit only Church pupils, would infallibly lead to the creation of many Board schools where there are voluntary schools now. It would clear the air if Mr. Lyulph Stanley would declare the drift of his policy in this respect, and frankly count the cost.

Among the special nominees appointed by the German Emperor to serve on his Council is Dr. Miquel, the Oberbürgermeister of Frankfort. Herr Kannegieser, in the *Frankfurter Generalanzeiger*, gives an account of an interview which he had with Dr. Miquel about three years ago, when the present counsellor of the Emperor gave free vent to his opinions concerning the Anti-Socialist legislation. "The Socialistengesetz," said he in 1886, "is bound to come to an end. It has no positive aim. It is kept up to please the venerable Emperor, who can never forget the attempt upon his life." "But Bismarck," suggested the interviewer. "Bismarck himself lays little or no value upon the Socialistengesetz," replied Dr. Miquel. "It was an accident, a product of the 'Attentate,' which alone made such a legislation possible. Sooner or later we shall be obliged to return to common and equal law for all Germans. The Anti-Socialist legislation cannot long outlive the Emperor Wilhelm." The interview was held in the famous "Römer" whose walls are covered with portraits of all the Emperors from Karl the Great to Wilhelm I. As the report appeared in a Frankfort paper and has not been contradicted by the chief citizen of Frankfort, it is to be presumed that the Anti-Socialist Legislation has one very decided opponent among the young Emperor's chosen counsellors.

"GIVE. GIVE."

LAST NIGHT IN THE COMMONS. BY AN OBSERVER.

Perhaps the most human incident in a barren night was the announcement by Mr. Cobb of a very amusing rider to Mr. Gladstone's amendment on the Report, sadly but severely reprehending the Government for their 1889 connection with the criminal conspirators below the gangway. Mr. Cobb seemed to have no perception of the two-edged nature of this rider—if it had any edge at all.

PITY THE PRIVATE MEMBER.

Mr. Smith then carried out his threat of pouncing upon Tuesdays and Fridays for Supply. It was not, however, without a considerable struggle with the unhappy private member that he carried out his nefarious designs. The fate of the private member this year is calculated to provoke a tear from the most hardened Parliamentarian. Session after session he comes to Westminster, prints on a mystic sheet of blue the one object and aspiration of his political life, and follows that sheet like a will-o'-the-wisp throughout the session. He "never is but ever will be blessed," and after a valiant opposition from Mr. Labouchere and Sir William Harcourt, and a mild protest from Mr. James Lowther on behalf of "the sheep below the gangway"—as Mr. Labouchere calls the Tories opposite him—Mr. Smith placed the private member' one step further from the fruition of his aims by a majority of 229 to 131. The House then went into Supply.

THOSE MONSTROUS BEASTS.

The first vote demanded—for the Houses of Parliament—gave rise to the usual debate on the architectural enormities in Westminster Hall. Mr. Cavendish Bentinck, Mr. Marjoribanks, and Sir George Campbell united in condemning the "monstrous heraldic beasts," the door that will not open, the road you cannot drive down, &c. &c. See last year's "Hansard." For the vote, 215; 106 against—majority, 109.

THE ART "VORTEX."

Then we were asked for £100,000 for the new land and buildings at South Kensington. This colossal supplementary estimate was met with a great outcry. The criticisms passed on the present buildings at South Kensington were (1) that all the museums and galleries are crowded too closely together (Mr. Bartley); (2) that there are several rooms unoccupied except by dusty chairs (Mr. Blane); (3) that South Kensington is a kind of "vortex"—a sort of place for shooting rubbishy bric-a-brac which the nation has to house (Labouchere). "There is no duty," said Mr. Labouchere, "more incumbent on this House than to keep a wary eye on the friends of art." Mr. Chamberlain showed that, even commercially, museums were a good speculation, and Mr. Mundella asserted that half a million of most valuable presents had been given in the year when he was President ("including Mr. Mundella's own bust," added Mr. Blane). Sir Lyon Playfair, as one of the Committee on the subject, said that the land could not wait, and was being bought below its proper value. For the vote—144; against, 67. Majority, 77

THE SKELETON AT THE FEAST.

After a weary discussion on the Diplomatic, Consular, and Foreign Office votes, we came to the vote for the new Department of Agriculture. It was quite a pleasant breath of country air. We ambled leisurely through fruit-gardens and wheat-fields; we envied the "red-coated barbarians," though we sadly shook our heads over their indifference to the farmers' hedges; and we talked very learnedly of pleuro-pneumonia, foot-and-mouth disease, and hydrophobia. And the landscape was not without a human interest. It was Mr. Chaplin's first ministerial statement, and he gave us plenty of it in the best copy-book Treasury Bench style. Everything, in fact, was going merrily as a wedding bell, when Mr. Labouchere walked in and moved the refusal of the whole of Mr. Chaplin's salary on the old ground that his work should be performed by the Chancellor of the Duchy. The wicked design of this skeleton at the feast was defeated by 118 to 58, and the loaded tables were saved from an upset.

OUR AFRICAN EMPIRE.

On a vote of £20,000 for Bechuanaland, Dr. Clark gave a really deplorable account of Bechuanaland—without schools, clergy, or doctors—and asserted that the only cause for which the Government would pay was for collecting men to fight the Matabeles. Baron de Worms, in his confused manner, proved very conclusively the vagueness of the term Protectorate, and the differences of opinion within its elastic boundaries, and several lances were broken by Sir George Campbell and Mr. Labouchere. The general charge seemed to be that the chartered company were using the Government as a monkey to pull the chestnuts out of the fire, with the possible consequence that we shall be engaged before long in a war with the Matabeles. For the vote, 143; against, 79. On the Swaziland vote, which then came up, the urgent demand for information by Professor Bryce and Sir George Campbell was met by very vague promises from Mr. W. H. Smith. A few more votes were rushed through, and the House adjourned

HOW TO SAVE FOX-HUNTING.

A SPORTING correspondent sends us the following communication, which will be read with interest, in connection with the questions asked in the House, and Mr. Chaplin's replies earlier in the week :—

Foxhunting this year ought to finish in less than a month. It is hoped that, when the season is so forward, masters of hounds will leave off early, otherwise there will be innumerable complaints from long-suffering agriculturists. And rightly so. All packs have enjoyed a brilliant season ; horses and hounds by the middle of March will have had enough, and the veriest glutton ought to have some consideration for farmers in these hard times.

It is not the real sportsman or the first-flight man who does the mischief. The itinerant crowd, composed of rough riders ; careless second horsemen ; those (many in number) who pull down fences to make gaps, and inexperienced ladies who now swell a field—these are the sinners. Most of them do not subscribe to the Hunt, they ride indiscriminately over wheat, beans, and seeds ; they take gates off hinges, and let stock escape ; they trample down the produce in garden allotments ; they gallop among the ewes in lambing season, and they ride round and round a field to find the safest exit.

On the other hand, it is difficult to contend that foxhunting does not benefit a district. As a rule, hunting men would be glad to buy their fodder from the farmer, if he had it to sell. The difficulty lies in the farmer being so often unable to supply old oats and old hay ; he has parted with his produce long before to enable him to pay his way. Bad seasons, low prices, high rental, and over-taxation may have all contributed to bring the tenant farmer to ruin ; but they have been supplemented by insufficient capital ; seldom putting by anything in a good year to meet a bad one ; never keeping regular accounts; these supplemental causes have been operating for the last thirty years.

Take the towns situate in the cream of the hunting districts. Would the tradesmen in Melton, Oakham, Daventry, Rugby, Leamington, Banbury, and Bicester wish to see hunting at an end ?

Would Ireland, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and South Wales like to see their sale of horses seriously diminished, when a real good weight-carrier as a five-year-old can command £200 before even passing into a dealer's hands ?

One word as to wire. All wire is bad, but barbed wire is a murderous invention. Hunting men must take care of themselves and their horses ; but how about the hounds ? A fox is found. In a few fields he gets into a barbed wire country. How can hounds be stopped ? How pitiable and irreparable may be the damage to them !

What remedies can be suggested that hunting may go on in the same spirit of kindly feeling as of yore ?—

(1) Why not, if it be but an experiment, try capping for those who do not subscribe ? It works well in Ireland, and used in old days to work well with the Oxford University Drag.

(2) The proceeds of the capping should go to a damage fund, to be carefully administered by an experienced committee.

(3) All wire should be taken down and replaced at the sole expense of the Hunt ; and if possible the Hunt should subscribe towards putting up rails in place of wire.

(4) Masters of hounds should try and hunt their country fairly and equally ; not going too often to one district and neglecting another.

In many cases the master is not to blame, but the strict game preserver who refuses to allow his coverts to be entered until after shooting is over. One sport ought to encourage the other. Surely the game preserver might relax his rule, and allow the hounds to come, after his coverts have been shot over a first time.

Lastly, let those who hunt remember that they are mere licensees, and endeavour by example, precept, and warning to check the heedless, ignorant, and foolish who are imperilling the grandest of national sports.

SOME MORE REFERENCE BOOKS.

AMONG the nearly exhausted stream of volumes lettered "1890," Messrs. Cassell's "Metropolitan Year-Book" is indispensable to the Londoner interested in affairs municipal, local, commercial, imperial, ecclesiastical, educational, and social. It gives a well-arranged mass of matter in compact form.—The "Electrical Trades Directory" (office of "The Electrician," Salisbury-court, Fleet-street) will no doubt be greatly in demand by those for whose use it has been specially compiled. The biographical notices are of general interest.—Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co. send us their "Indian List" (January, 1890, giving full details of the "Indian Civil" next June), which furnishes much valuable information about the civil and military services, and everything else that is Anglo-Indian.—"Nuttall's Standard Dictionary" (F. Warne and Co.) is a book for all time, of course, rather than expressly for 1890. This new national edition, supervised by the Rev. James Wood, is the 250th thousand, and deserves the added measure of popularity it will doubtless attain. Fortunately, there is no need, in reviewing the book, to see what "Every Man's Own Lawyer" (Crosby Lockwood and Son) says about libel on authors. The 1890 edition, just issued, seems to keep up to the high standard of excellence which has long been a feature of that useful work of reference ; in fact, with this volume in hand, every one may have reasonable hopes of reversing (without costs) the ancient decision that "he who is his own lawyer has a fool for his client."—"The Windsor Peerage for 1890" (Chatto and Windus) is a new-comer. Mr. Walford, the editor, is to be congratulated on his admirable alphabetical arrangement ; while binding, paper, and print are quite luxurious enough to justify the title. This is claimed to be the only peerage corrected up to December 31, 1889.—The process block illustrations in the January and February issues of the *Photographic Art Journal* (Whittingham and Co., 91, Gracechurch-street) show something more than laudable effort, and should serve as a lesson to many publishers if they are wise enough to take it.

"CASSELL'S NEW POPULAR EDUCATOR."

"The New Popular Educator," Vol. II. (Cassell and Co.) "A complete encyclopædia of elementary and advanced education" is possibly a magniloquent description of this useful work. A student will have to make himself master of a good many volumes, and use a considerable amount of mother-wit in the process, if he is to obtain an encyclopædic education in this way. There are four papers on Latin, for instance, but the learner has not yet been asked to tackle a piece of prose construing. Our judgment would have inclined us to begin with prose. Nevertheless, the "Popular Educator" does a good work. Of this there is plenty of proof in actual experience. A former issue of the work helped, if we remember right, to further the training of James Macdonell, one of the most successful and able of modern journalists.

THE PEOPLE'S LAW DICTIONARY.

"The People's Dictionary of English Law." By A. Ward Renton, M.A., LL.B. (Hodder and Stoughton.) It must be a very peculiar people for whom this law dictionary is designed—peculiar alike in what it wants to know and what it doesn't want to know, and in the knowledge which it is content to acquire. Thus it wants to be advised what a Cæsarian section is and its effect on the husband's tenancy by courtesy in his deceased wife's land ; it does not want to know what a charity is, how well created, what dangers must be avoided ; and though it is told under "Trusts" to "see Mortmain," mortmain ; cannot see, for it is not in sight. Again, this people has no curiosity as to County Councils or municipal corporations and when it wants to know about a vestry is referred to "Poor Law," but naturally finds nothing about a vestry under that head. It has a great thirst for the Local Government Act, 1888, but interrupts its draught of knowledge to peruse a table of the limitation of actions. It is content with an "Insurance Agent," and never wants an agent of any other kind. And "Specific Performance" we are told, will in general only be enforced as to contracts relating to land.

"BLACKIE'S MODERN CYCLOPÆDIA."

"Blackie's Modern Cyclopædia of Universal Information." Edited by Charles Annandale, M.A. Vol. IV. (Blackie and Son.) This fourth volume contains articles from "Fire" to "Florin." Short, readable articles on every conceivable subject in history, literature, art, and science are the staple. It is meant for the use of average readers, and supplies with excellent success what are likely to be their needs, the illustrations and maps giving not a little help. The limits of the work, of course, necessitate some omissions. Still, one might have expected to see a few lines given to such a master in his art as Gibbons, the carver in wood. Generally the biographical element is somewhat scantily represented.

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE.

THE thanks of all persons contemplating life assurance (writes a correspondent) are certainly due to you for directing attention to what is called the "endowment" system, under which, as you clearly demonstrated, the assured can not only make provision against premature death, but can at the same time secure the payment to himself of the sum insured in case of survival to the period agreed upon, the cost to him being relatively much less than is exacted when the premium is payable under the ordinary plan, until death, as you truly observed. It is quite possible, under the system in question, to obtain in a few English as well as in the American offices a policy of assurance which will practically cost nothing in the event of the holder surviving to claim the money, inasmuch as the whole of the premiums paid will be returned to him in the sum assured, together with a handsome bonus. In fact this method of insuring is equivalent to depositing money in the safest manner, and withdrawing it, plus compound interest at say 3 per cent. per annum, at the expiration of a stated term, with this advantage in its favour—that in case of death in the interval, the whole sum is of course payable, although only one premium may have been paid. There are other advantages, looking at the matter from an assurance as distinguished from an investment point of view—namely, that the policy carries a higher surrender value than is usually allowed, that the bonuses are often allotted on a scale greater than is customary, and that forfeiture of the policy is rendered impossible, in consequence of the companies granting a *pro rata* paid-up assurance for such of the premiums as have been paid. For instance, if an assured has disbursed three premiums out of fifteen, and is unable or unwilling to pay more, he would get a paid-up policy for one-fifth of the amount originally assured.

All these desiderata have, of course, to be paid for, as will be seen when I mention that, assuring at, say age thirty-five, the annual premium for an endowment policy for £1,000 payable at age fifty, or earlier in event of death, is £69, as compared with £28 due annually under a policy for whole of life. The result is simply this : the rich man obtains his assurance on much more favourable terms than those accorded to his struggling brother who cannot afford to pay the higher premium, but who, nevertheless, provides most of the profits through his life-long contributions to the companies' funds. It may interest your readers if I give an instance of the profits derived by eight or nine offices from the premiums paid over a very long period by a gentleman who died a few years ago, and who was unfortunate enough to insure his life by annual premiums until death. The policies aggregated £39,000 at the outset, but were increased by bonuses from time to time, so that in the end the companies handed the executors £76,872. Now the assured had paid the companies the enormous sum of £430,000, including interest, hence their profits on this solitary transaction reached upwards of £350,000 ! This is, I dare say, a somewhat extreme case, but there is no doubt that there are thousands who have expended in assurance three and four times the sums their heirs will receive from the offices. It is therefore very desirable that intending assurants should be posted as to the manner in which they can best make provision for their families, and there can be no doubt that so far the endowment policy is the most favourable under all circumstances. I may go further, and say that indications are not wanting that the public are beginning to realize the fact, thanks in a great measure to articles such as the one you published on the 10th instant. I should add that enormous profits are made by life offices on policies issued on the non-participation scale, and especially on those on which the assured gets no bonus at all until he has been insured for 25-30 years, and his payments amount to the sum assured. Such policies, and, in a minor degree, those for the whole term of life, are inimical to the interests of the would-be policy-holder, and should therefore be avoided.

The Ladies' Corner.

DRESSMAKING AS A PROFESSION.

While the lot of the dressmaker's apprentice is not an enviable one, there are few trades for women that offer such prizes as making clothes for other women. The chief dressmaker of a Bond-street establishment will command a salary of from £250 to £300 a year. What is more, the supply is not equal to the demand. A good head woman will always have a dozen places open to her if she leaves a situation. Naturally this encourages an independence of spirit that is often fatal to long continuance in one place. A chief hand's work is confined to cutting out, overlooking the other women, and conferring with the designer. The designer is the rock over which most of them split, for if he wants too many alterations the dressmaker rebels. The hours of a chief hand are not heavy, and a Paris education is necessary, as many suppose. If French ideas are needed, a Frenchwoman is imported. The best houses prefer an English hand who is thoroughly English.

CLASSES FOR LL.A.'S AT ST. ANDREWS.

The increasing number of women who "go in for" the now well-known LL.A. examinations at St. Andrews University will be glad to hear that professional classes for the education of women will again be opened in the summer of 1890. Professor Knight points out in the prospectus which has just been issued that the classes will begin on May 15, and will continue till the end of July. No class will be opened, unless ten students are enrolled in it ; nor will the session be begun unless three classes are started. Intending students must send in their names and addresses to the secretary, The University, St. Andrews, N.B., on or before the first day of April, with an intimation of the class, or classes, they propose to attend.

Scholarships will be awarded by public competition among intending students at the commencement of the session. The subjects of instruction will be those now taught at the University, and the lectures will be of the same character as those given during the winter session to men. They will also prepare for the LL.A. Diploma of the University. The fee for each class will be £2 2*s*.

WOMEN AS VEGETARIANS.

A chat with the keeper of a vegetarian restaurant revealed the fact that he fed about 200 people every day. There is something enticing about the appearance of a vegetarian restaurant. Whatever may be thought of the fare, the place is always clean, and there are none of those very suggestive smells that are often too prevailing in places where the carnivori meet. The waitresses are generally neat and trim too. The customers at this restaurant are chiefly dressmakers and shopkeeper's assistants, perhaps 25 per cent. are women. The manager said he didn't think there were many among his customers who were vegetarians from conviction. "They come here for cheapness and change," he said. Some are here every day ; others come three or four times a week. The average price a man pays for a vegetarian dinner is 10*d*. ; but the women only average 6*d*. The manager added that if there were any complaints they always came from women."

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

HIRD, FRANK. "The Temperance Reader." (Cassell and Co.) [Cloth. Pp. 240. Illustrations.]

HUDSON, FRANK. "Running Double : A Story of the Stable and the Stage." (Ward and Downey.) [A novel in two volumes.]

JEFFERY, JEFFERY C. "James Vraille ; the Story of a Life." (W. H. Allen.) [A novel in two volumes.]

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MORFILL, W. R., M.A. "Russia." (T. Fisher Unwin.) [A volume of the "Story of the Nations" series. Cloth. Pp. xxi., 394. Map and portraits. Price 5*s*.]

MURRAY, D. CHRISTIE. "John Vale's Guardian." (Macmillan and Co.) [A novel in three volumes.]

OMAN, C. W. E. "A History of Greece from the Earliest Times to the Macedonian Conquest." (Rivingtons.) [A short history, embodying recent discoveries, for the use of schools. Cloth. Pp. x., 536. Price 4*s*. 6*d*.]

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A UNIVERSITY TESTIMONIAL TO PROFESSOR STUART.

In view of the approaching resignation by Professor Stuart of his professorship, a circular has been issued inviting signatures to the following address:—"We, the undersigned members of the Senate, having learned from your letter to the Vice-Chancellor your intention of resigning your professorship in the University, desire to express our sense of the great public service which you have rendered in connection with the University Extension movement. By yourself first delivering specimen courses of lectures, and afterwards strenuously advocating and ably organizing their widespread establishment, you did for the country at large and for our own and other Universities work which we regard with sincere respect and admiration. The degree in which Cambridge has during the last twenty years come in useful relation with sections of the community which were previously regarded as beyond the sphere of its influence, is, we hold, largely attributable to your inspiring initiative and to the wise principles of administration which, mainly under your guidance, the University laid down." The circular accompanying this address bears the signatures of Dr. Westcott, Dr. Jackson, Professor Browne, Professor Stanton, Mr. Sedley Taylor, and Mr. Protheroe. The address has already been largely and influentially signed by men of all parties. It is proposed also to present Professor Stuart with a piece of plate.

DEATH UNDER EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

The Comtesse de Carloty, *née* Sarah Moorcock, has just died very suddenly, in her house in the Rue de Babylone. The deceased lady was found dead in her chair by her *couturier*, and on her knees was resting a box containing £5,200 in gold, while near her was another receptacle containing bonds and securities amounting in value to £800. The Countess was eighty-one years old, and, in the absence of any member of her family, the justice of the peace of the district placed magisterial seals on her property and effects. The deceased came originally from Woking, and had been a widow for many years.

STRENGTHENING THE DEFENCES OF THE MEDWAY.

It is stated that the defences of the Medway are to be immediately strengthened by the erection in the central bastion at Sheerness of two 29-ton breechloading guns. The guns, which are now undergoing the finishing process at Woolwich Arsenal, will be mounted on Moncrieff carriages; and the bastion is also undergoing some important structural alterations with a view to strengthening it.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTER-ETCHERS.

Four new associates of the Royal Society of Painter-Etchers have been elected: Mr. A. W. Bayes, Mr. W. Boucher, Mr. C. F. Robinson, and Mr. F. S. Walker. The object of this society being not merely the restoration of original etching, but the re-infusion into all forms of the engraver's art of the painter-like qualities which to a great extent it has lost, it has been determined to include in each annual Exhibition of the works of its Fellows, a few typical examples by one or other of the great masters of etching, beginning at the forthcoming Exhibition, which opens to the public on Monday, with those of Rembrandt.

THE MARLOWE MEMORIAL.

A meeting of the Marlowe Memorial Committee was held at Canterbury yesterday, under the presidency of the mayor, who was supported by Dean Payne Smith and other members. It was resolved that as Canterbury had been selected for the site of the memorial, the citizens should be urged to subscribe liberally towards the fund, and so enable the committee to secure a handsome monument to the memory of one of England's greatest poets.

THE DUCKS ON THE SERPENTINE.

"M.D." writes to the *Times*:—"Can you inform me as to who is responsible for the cruelty with which these poor creatures are now being treated? It appears that some of the old males require killing at this season of the year, so for the last week they have been shot at in the morning between seven and eight by a man in a boat, who is (according to my information, a policeman) not only near-sighted and obliged to wear spectacles, but who also shoots right into the flocks of birds, necessarily wounding others than those aimed at, besides which, as I can personally testify, frightening several horses in the Row."

PERTINENT ADVICE TO THE KAISER.

In the Belgian Senate yesterday M. Van Put, Senator for Antwerp, delivered a speech, in the course of which he urged the Government to propose to the Berlin Labour Conference the expediency of a general disarmament. His remarks were received with signs of assent from all parts of the House.

A CABMAN'S UNION.

A crowded and enthusiastic meeting was held last evening at St. Mary's School's, St. George's-in-the-East, under the presidency of Mr. Tom Mann, for the purpose of organizing a union for the coach, bus, cab, and van trades. From a statement made in the course of the evening by the secretary to the Union, Mr. H. Galer—it appeared that, although trade organizations mostly of a benefit character formerly existed, they had not answered the immediate purposes of a Union such as that just started, and of which already some 2,000 men have become members.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY. BAROMETER.

South England (with London and Channel).—Easterly winds, fresh; dull, slight rain occasionally.

HIGH WATER London Bridge. Morn. 6h. 33m. After. 6h. 53m.

THE WIND AT NOON TO-DAY.

Noon to-day / Yesterday

Yesterday / Noon to-day

Sun Rises 6h. 54m. ,, Sets 5h. 32m. Moon—First Qr. 5.28m. 2h. 6m. Af.

WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, Feb. 26, 1890.—Cloudy, cold, misty; wind light.

Readings by NEGRETTI *and* ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

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AMERICANS WILL TAKE UP THE SCHEME IF THE ENGLISH NEGOTIATIONS FALL THROUGH.

An English syndicate, with a capital of £5,000,000, for the formation of a school-book trust, is announced at New York, but (says a Dalziel despatch) unless the combined English capitalists do not succeed in completing their purchases by May 6, a number of leading publishing houses there will combine and form an American school-book trust. Mr. Appleton, chief of the great book house of Appleton and Co., will accept the presidency, and a site for a centre building is already being considered. Authors and teachers and proprietors of schools oppose both schemes—the authors because it may uniform the value of their productions, and the teachers because it will deprive them of the privilege of preference. The firm of Harper Brothers have declined to join either the English or the proposed American trust.

DESTRUCTIVE CYCLONE IN TEXAS.

A RAILWAY STATION AND TWENTY HOUSES WRECKED.

A cyclone has passed over Northern Texas, causing much damage. The Masonic hall and court house at Santa Fé and the railway station and twenty houses at Gainsville were wrecked. Many houses in the town of Brownsville, Tennesse, have been demolished by a violent hurricane. Terrific storms are reported from the south-west generally.—*Reuter.*

A TOWN DEMOLISHED.

Several cyclones and electric storms prevail in the Western States. The small town of Brownsville, Tennessee, has (a Central News telegram says) been practically demolished by a cyclone, the wood-built houses collapsing before the force of the storm. Many of the inhabitants are badly injured. Owing to heavy floods, the town of Hamilton, Ohio, is partly submerged, the damage to property being great.

REPORTED ACCIDENT TO THE ORIENT EXPRESS.

A Central News telegram from Paris says:—A telegram from Vienna states that the Orient express, travelling westward from Constantinople, left the rails yesterday near Tirnova. No other particulars are furnished.

LORD TENNYSON'S HEALTH.

We are glad to be able to again announce, on the best authority, that the improvement in Lord Tennyson's health continues. He is decisively better this morning, and there is now a sanguine hope of his complete recovery.

PRINCE BISMARCK.

The *Hamburger Nachrichten* states semi-officially that Prince Bismarck has reconsidered his intention to resign the Presidency of the Prussian Ministry and the Chancellorship, but that the result of the elections has delayed his taking a final decision.—*Central News.*

THE RESULT OF THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

The results of the German elections are now all in. The second ballots, of which 149 are appointed, are to take place on Friday and Saturday next. The official announcement of the results makes but trifling modification in the lists already published.

MR. CARNEGIE ENTERTAINS THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. Carnegie gave a magnificent banquet at Washington last night. The President and the Vice-President of the United States were the guests of honour, and both made long speeches, congratulating their host on the eminence he had obtained from a life that began as a barefooted boy.—*Dalziel.*

A MILLIONAIRE WHO THOUGHT HIS FORTUNE TOO LARGE!

Mr. Astor was buried in Trinity churchyard, in the heart of New York city, yesterday. The funeral, which was of a very simple description, was witnessed by 15,000 people. Mr. Astor frequently remarked that the family fortune was too large, and invited envious attack, which was a serious menace in these days of successful Socialism.—*Dalziel.*

A RAID UPON NEW YORK BUCKET SHOPS.

Three New York bucket shops were raided by the police yesterday and the proprietors arrested. A test case will be made under the Gambling Act of 1889, and if it is successful, all the bucket shops, of which there are many, will have to close.—*Dalziel.*

THE INFLUENZA.—SERIOUS REPORTS.

At King's Lynn a considerable proportion of the inhabitants are affected, and a post-office official died on Saturday. Several board schools in different villages have been closed.

In consequence of the alarming spread of the disease schools in Devonshire are being closed one after the other. In some cases not only most of the scholars, but also the teaching staff, are attacked. Deaths have been unusually numerous.

Lord Hobhouse is suffering from an acute attack of influenza, which is likely to keep him indoors all this week.

THE DISASTER IN ARIZONA.—LATEST.

The extent of the terrible catastrophe in Arizona is (a Central News telegram says (not yet known. The number of persons killed is variously stated, and the loss of fifty lives at least appears to be undoubted. Of these, twelve bodies have been recovered, some having been carried thirty miles by the torrent and frightfully mutilated. It has been ascertained that a man who witnessed the bursting of the dam, and who instantly dashed off on horseback down the canon to warn the inhabitants, was overtaken by the flood and drowned. Many valuable ranches have been utterly ruined.

AN EXCEPTIONAL THEATRICAL HIT.

The revival of Offenbach's "Grand Duchess" at the Casino, with Lilian Russell in the title rôle, is the greatest hit made in New York for many years.—*Dalziel.*

MURDEROUS ATTACK ON A GAOL GOVERNOR.

An attempt was made yesterday to murder the governor of the Central prison, in the Department of the Nord. While going his round several Prisoners attacked and tried to stab him, but the gaolers arrived, and after a struggle, handcuffed them and conveyed them to their cells.

ACCIDENT TO A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

Mr. H. J. Selwyn Ibbetson, Bart., M.P., has had a narrow escape from injury. After attending to his parliamentary duties last night, he travelled to Harlow Station, where he was met by his brougham. On the way to Down-hill the carriage came into collision with a dog-cart. The carriage was much damaged, but the occupant escaped with a severe shaking.

CRITICAL CONDITION OF LORD AUCKLAND.

Lord Auckland, telegraphs a Doncaster correspondent, is in a critical condition. He has gradually become much weaker, and his condition causes the greatest anxiets.

WOLVES ATTACK A POST CART.

According to the Bucharest correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company, the cold there is very intense. The wolves are showing themselves in packs near towns and villages. A wolf hunt has been organized, at which it was said the Heir Presumptive would assist. In Bessarabia, near the Soroca station, a post-cart was attacked by a pack of these animals, and the postman and horses devoured. The leather post-bags were torn to pieces, but many of the jetters were found intact.

The room of Captain and Mrs. FitzGeorge in the Hôtel Métropole at Monte Carlo was entered last week and jewellery of the value of over £300 was stolen.—*Truth.*

UNIVERSITY NOTES AND NEWS.

OXFORD. (FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Very few bumps were made in the last two days of the Torpids. Here is a list of the colleges before and after the races:—

FIRST DIVISION.		SECOND DIVISION.	
BEFORE.	AFTER.	BEFORE.	AFTER.
1. Brasenose.	1. Brasenose.	14. Oriel.	14. Hertford.
2. New College I.	2. Balliol I.	15. Merton.	15. Oriel.
3. Balliol I.	3. New College I.	16. Wadham.	16. New College II
4. Christ Church I.	4. Christ Church I.	17. B.N.C. II.	17. B.N.C. II.
5. Keble I.	5. Corpus.	18. University.	18. Pembroke.
6. Christ Church II.	6. Christ Church II.	19. Pembroke.	19. Wadham.
7. Exeter I.	7. Queen's I.	20. New College II.	20. Lincoln.
8. Corpus.	8. Keble I.	21. Magdalen II.	21. Magdalen II.
9. Queen's I.	9. Exeter I.	22. Balliol II.	22. University.
10. Trinity.	10. Magdalen I.	23. Lincoln.	23. Balliol II.
11. Magdalen.	11. Trinity.	24. Worcester.	24. Worcester.
12. St. John's.	12. Merton.	25. St. Catherine's.	25. St. Catherine's.
13. Hertford.	13. St. John's.	26. Exeter II.	26. Exeter II.
		27. Keble II.	27. Keble II.
		28. Queen's II.	28. Queen's II.

This table shows that nothing very eventful happened this year. Undoubtedly the feature of the races was the magnificent fight between Balliol and B.N.C. on Monday, when the former crew pressed B.N.C. so hard that the question was raised whether or no the latter college was not bumped on the winning post. On the last two days Balliol practically gave up the race as useless, thus leaving B.N.C. head of the river for the fifth consecutive year.

New College second made the largest number of bumps—namely, four—making ten bumps in the last two years. Corpus and Merton each made three bumps on the first three nights but failing to secure their bump on Monday; they seemed to lose heart and failed to rise further.

There was a tolerable amount of jubilation on Wednesday night on the part of successful colleges. B.N.C. had a big dinner on to "take men out of training." A considerable number of guests were invited, among them the president of the O.U.B.C. Dinner was followed by the customary and genial bonfire, which was so attractive to a certain crew that these latter made every effort to gain admission to the college, and failing to get in showed their annoyance by such demonstrations as have proved a source of revenue to the University coffers.

The question of bonfires is one which distresses college officials. Undergrads maintain that they are an ancient institution; dons say they are not; and many a judicious Dean urges the "men"—which is by interpretation members of the Varsity who are not dons—to desist, on the plea that bonfires are a bad example to colleges less excellently controlled than their own.

Jesus College has elected the Rev. William Franklen Evans to a fellowship. This gentleman is the headmaster of Cowbridge Grammar School.

The Varsity Eight are proposing to do some "good solid work" this week. They are improving steadily. Drake is being given a rest to recover his wonted health, but he will probably be rowing again this week.

Here is a case which illustrates the fact that the apotheosis of the athlete is not a thing of the past. The barber who was shaving me the other day proposed, to my horror, to rob me of the moustache which I have cultivated with care and of which I am justly proud. "Oh yes, sir: I have shaved fifteen gentlemen's moustaches to-day. I hear Mr. Nickalls has shaved his moustache." Picture fifteen miserable men I The rumour was false; for Nickall's merry countenance is still adorned by his accomplished moustache.

The statute to do away with University sermons, on the ground of poor attendance, was thrown out at the last Congregation, the Warden of New College and the Regius Professor of Divinity proving too strong a combination.

A DRESSMAKERS' PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION.

An old-world institution, inaugurated long ere trades unions for women were commenced, and before the condition of female workers commanded widespread attention, celebrated yesterday, at Burlington Hall, its fortieth anniversary. The Milliners and Dressmakers' Provident and Benevolent Institution provides relief for its members when they are sick or in necessitous circumstances, for the small payment of 4½*d.* a week. With such advantages it is not surprising that Lord Kinnaird, chairman of the meeting, expressed his astonishment at the small number of members. Out of the thousands who plan and stitch for the adornment of their more fortunate sisters only about 200 have made provision for a provident fund for the aged, a fact which the chairman accounted for by the natural hopefulness characteristic of young women. In spite, however, of their independence he must remind them that freedom from want and worry were wonderful doctors in sickness and excellent renewers of life. The association was in a most flourishing condition in the matter of finds, and £663 15*s.* had been spent in relieving members during the year, while the income was £702 5*s.* 10*d.* The evening, which had commenced with "tea and coffee," ended when the hours were growing late with a "grand evening concert," at which the majority of the performers were dressmakers or milliners. The music was evidently heartily enjoyed by the four or five hundred of their fellow-workers who had come together at the invitation of their more provident sisters.

THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF WOMEN IN RUSSIA.

The annual meeting of the St. Petersburg University has been followed by a ball given in aid of the higher education of women. St. Petersburg is still one of the few University towns in Russia (writes the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Daily Graphic*) at which a sort of university extension system for women is permitted. These lectures are supported by funds derived from charitable persons, and from the profits of the annual ball, at which the light and leading of St. Petersburg *savants* and *literati* are to be found. The most gorgeous uniforms thronged the rooms; the Mayor was present, the Rector of the University, a large number of professors, the most celebrated actresses and singers, and some of the best people of the capital.

CANON LIDDON AND THE VACANT BISHOPRIC.

In episcopal circles it is understood (the London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* writes) that the hitch in making an appointment to the vacant Bishopric of Durham arose because of the strong desire of the Prime Minister that Canon Liddon should be appointed and the even stronger objection of the Queen—an objection, it may be added—of very long standing—to acceding to his wish. Various other names have been suggested, but the deadlock of two months continues.

A LIVERPOOL PILOT CARRIED OUT TO MADEIRA.

The Liverpool pilot, Mr. William Jones, who was carried off to sea by the four-masted ship *Golden Horn*, and subsequently landed at Madeira, has arrived back. The *Golden Horn* left Holyhead just after the great storms about the middle of January, but it seems that she had hardly got clear of the Welsh coast before she met with fearful weather, and was no less than ten days going between Holyhead and the Tuskar, a distance of between one and two hundred miles only. Finally Madeira was sighted, and it was intended to put Mr. Jones ashore. As the boat neared the beach a crowd of soldiers with fixed bayonets came down, and refused to allow any landing. The boat was kept off for no less than fourteen hours before the occupants were allowed to touch the shore. When Mr. Jones landed he found the inhabitants greatly excited over the attitude which England had assumed towards Portugal. Being Portuguese, they were doing all they could to show their aversion to England, and before the residence of the Vice-Consul at Funchal the British ensign was being dragged along the road and trodden upon. A Cape mail touched at the island, and Mr. Jones was enabled to leave. He was landed in London. Instead of going about twenty miles in the *Golden Horn* Mr. Jones through being carried off traversed between two and three thousand.

SUICIDE BEFORE A CATHEDRAL ALTAR.

Great sensation has been caused at Tiflis by the suicide of a painter, who shot himself in the cathedral during mass in front of the altar. The cathedral has been closed, and will have to be re-consecrated.

Mr. Clement Scott is preparing a volume of reminiscences for publication.

The Bishop of Guildford (Dr. Sumner) has been forbidden to leave the house, owing to a severe attack of influenza.

The second edition of the Parnell Commission Report is already out of print. A third edition is in the press, and may be ready by to-day or to-morrow.

The Cape Mail brings further particulars of the tour of Sir Henry Loch. At King William's Town and East London he was received with much enthusiasm.

The French Freethinking party is, it is reported, taking vigorous action against the proposed canonization of Joan of Arc, who, it maintains, was far less the victim of the English than of the priests.

Proclamations are about to be issued in Zanzibar under which all children born within the Sultan's dominions after January 1st for this year will be free, also all slaves imported after November 1st of last year.

Lord Grimthorpe read to the Protestant Churchman's Alliance yesterday, a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury, stating that the bishops had unanimously urged the immediate re-introduction into Parliament of the measure introduced two years ago dealing with clerical contumacy.

Disquieting reports are current at Rome respecting the attitude of the Abyssinian monarch, who, it is represented, has broken away from his treaty with Italy. Signor Crispi denied in the Chamber yesterday that any official intimation had been received in confirmation of the rumours.

THE NORTH ST. PANCRAS ELECTION.

LAST NIGHT'S MEETINGS.

The chief meeting last night in support of Mr. Bolton's candidature was held in Gospel Oak, at the non-political Working Men's Club in Fleet-road. The room, fitted with a fixed platform stage, is not large, but it was crowded to overflowing. Mr. Hind, who presided, gave an illustration of the tactics of the Tory party. In 1885, he declared, they said that Mr. Bolton had been struck off the rolls. It was a lie; but they never apologized. In 1886 they said that Mr. Bolton was an Atheist. As a matter of fact, he had been a churchwarden for twenty years. And now their opponents insinuated that Mr. Bolton's wife had obtained a divorce from him. There was no foundation whatever for such a calumny. Mrs. Bolton was one of the hardest workers for her husband. (Cheers.) Yet the Tories claimed to be the gentlemanly party! After Mr. Hind, Mr. Handel Cossham, M.P., was the chief speaker; and the member for East Bristol, with his "By Joves" and comic Biblical illustrations, was certainly quite at home. He said, for instance, that had the stupid system of tests been persisted in the Government, like Herod of old, would have died of worms. But Mr. Cossham's deductions, if somewhat roughly expressed, were sound; and his every point was loudly cheered. After he had talked for nearly an hour, Mr. Buchanan, one of the members for Edinburgh, spoke on behalf of Scottish Liberals, clearly and forcibly putting the issues before the electors. Then Mr. M. J. Kenny (not Dr. Kenny) one of the "criminals," recited the crying wrongs of the Clongarey tenants. Mr. Bolton, fresh from addressing an open-air meeting in Highgate, pointed out how far-reaching would be the results of a Liberal victory in St. Pancras. He proposed the "London programme" in such a fashion that his hearers' throats must have watered, and was very heartily cheered. Before the meeting broke up at a late hour, a vote of confidence in the candidate was enthusiastically passed.

THIS MORNING'S REPORT.

Mr. T. H. Bolton was at work early this morning. At half-past eight o'clock he addressed the hosts of labour, and was received with unanimous note of confidence was accorded him. In the dinner hour he addressed the Midland Railway men at the carriage works. Mr. Bolton at gatherings of this sort always gets his audiences to vote one of their own number to the chair. This evening, at half-past five o'clock, the Liberal candidate addresses the Midland Railway men at the Goods department, and to-night speaks at three more meetings. One takes place in the Kentish Town-road Schools, and there Mr. Samuel Montagu will preside, while Mr. Joshua Rowntree, M.P., Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., and Mr. McDougall will do the talking; another meeting is in Wilkin-ste School-rooms (not far off), which will be attended by Mr. Sydney Buxton, Mr. James Rowlands, and Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P.; while the third meeting is at the Primitive Methodist Schools on Camden Church, Parkhill, the M.P.'s announced to speak being Messrs. Mark Beaufoy and Lil. A. Atherley-Jones. The chair in each case will be taken at eight o'clock.

The chances of the Liberal candidate are becoming brighter and brighter. The National Labour Electoral Association, considering Mr. Bolton a sound man on the Eight Hours question, have decided to support his claims; and for that purpose have set up in the constituency some of their trusted canvassers. The Local Optionists also have formally approved of Mr. Bolton. Mr. S. R. Lamble, a St. Pancras guardian and churchwarden, informed a representative that in the course of a long lifetime's experience of the district he had never seen such interest taken in an election as at present, and never before had the organization been so perfect. Nearly all the by-ways of St. Pancras—and they are highways—consist of shops—red bills greatly predominate. In the Prince of Wales-road, for instance, one of Mr. Bolton's bills is exhibited on nearly every house. And if meetings are any test—which is of course doubtful—there is sure to be a Liberal victory. The greatest enthusiasm and unanimity prevail on every possible occasion. Mr. Bolton's delivery has much improved, and he has blossomed out since the contest began into a most effective speaker. But canvassing is the one thing needful, and lady canvassers especially are asked to come to aid to defeat the machinations of the Primrose dames. If Mr. Graham wins it will be because he is a rich man; not because he has been round the world three times. The poor are told that if Mr. Bolton is returned local charities will languish; but local social functions will be neglected; but if the Tory is returned things will be different. Of course this only affects the ignorant and weak, but Liberal ladies are wanted to counteract such rubbish, as every vote is of the utmost importance. Mrs. Bolton is actively canvassing to-day in a poor neighbourhood where voters are as plentiful as rubbish in the streets.

On inquiries this morning our representative ascertained that Mr. Leighton's accident has proved more serious than was at first imagined. He was thrown from his horse, and so injured his arm that his doctor forbade him to leave the house. He broke this order yesterday, however, by visiting his head committee rooms; but he will be quite unable to do much in the way of public performances. He has issued a poster saying that the report that he had retired from the contest being calculated to injure him he has instructed his solicitor to proceed against the originators of such a cock and bull story. If after this Mr. Leighton makes even he will make himself doubly ridiculous.

THE TERRIER SHOW.

The great Central Hall in Holborn is this morning full of howls, yelps, and whines, for the sixth show of the fox terrier, toy dog and collie clubs has just opened with a larger number of entries than ever before. Indeed the number of exhibits is so large that the great hall is overcrowded both down below and in the gallery, and the judges have been relegated into the dark corners where the difficulties of correct adjudication are considerable. The present show includes every variety of terrier known, Schipperkes, Welsh, Yorkshire, Irish, Clydesdale, Bedlington, Scotch, Airedales, Dandie Dinmont, Fox, and Black and Tan. All these classes are well represented, among the Wires being Champion Bishop Brorton, who is the son of Champion Sunday Hopper, Oakleigh Hornet, was sold to his present owners two weeks ago for 150 guineas, and is the holder of the Challenge Cup. Mr. A. W. Johnston's Carlisle Trick II. and Mr. Hogg's Oakleigh Nibs are also good dogs in this class. Champion Briggs, formerly the property of Lord Lonsdale, and the winner of a large number of prizes, is also here. He is a fine dog, but is getting a little aged.

Among the toy spaniels which are a good deal to the secretary of their club, Captain Hugh C. Cillis, it is somewhat a pity that the acknowledged champion of England is not present. But Ben D'Or is for the nonce represented by Mrs. Graves's Golden Ben. The absence of Mrs. Horne's Diva, the finest Blenheim Spaniel in England, is also to be regretted, though Mrs. L.E. Jenkins sends several fine dogs of the class, and Mr. B. Steele's Chantilee is a nice spaniel. The best Ruby spaniel in the show is undoubtedly Mr. Woodgate's England's best, and there is a very fair collection of Prince Charlies. Of the quaint little Japanese terriers, called in their native island sleeve dogs, because the ladies there carry them hidden in their sleeves, Mr. Lindsay Hogg's Moonsie II. is the finest, in beauty combined with quaintness of its contortions. There are several of these quaint little dogs in England, but they belong to ladies who do not care to exhibit them, such as Lady Curzon, Lady Wharncliffe, Lady Malmesbury, and consequently they are but rarely seen. Little Princess, Mr. A. George's pet is getting to be among the "has beens," but she is certainly the best black and tan toy in the show.

Among the Yorkshire terriers of which there is a fair class, Mrs. M. A. Foster's Champion Ted carries away the palm. The same lady's Bradford Tottie is also a pretty little creature. The Pomeranian and Italian greyhound classes contain nothing very noteworthy.

The judging is going on briskly, and it is anticipated that all awards will be made public by to-morrow. The Show is very largely attended. A word of praise is due to the excellent arrangements of Mr. Crufts, the secretary.

THE ACCIDENT TO MR. VICTOR MORIER.

There has been a constant stream of inquirers at the British Embassy at St. Petersburg to learn the state of Mr. Victor Morier. The two doctors in attendance have issued a bulletin, stating that the general condition of the patient was satisfactory and the pain less troublesome.

SIR R. WEBSTER AS MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

The London correspondent of the *Irish Times* says it is understood that Sir R. Webster will succeed Lord Esher on his retirement at Easter from the Mastership of the Rolls.

LORD GRIMTHORPE AT THE PROTESTANT CHURCHMEN'S ALLIANCE.

The Protestant Churchmen's Alliance met at Exeter Hall yesterday. There was only a limited attendance. Lord Grimthorpe, who was in the chair, hardly seemed (writes the London correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post*) in such good form as upon the memorable occasion when the Alliance first courted the public eye; but he was, of course, lively and critical. The Bishop of Chester was mercifully spared, but the Upper House of Canterbury Convocation shared with Chairmen in Council the honour of supplying material for an entertaining speech. Their lordships were particularly jeered at for their laboured debate upon form for the reception of penitents into the Church. They suffered almost as sorely as the two senior wranglers, Mr. Fletcher Moulton, Q.C., and Sir G. Stokes, M.P., upon whose logic Lord Grimthorpe fell with the keenest relish. His Lordship was eventually elected President of the Alliance. The proceedings other than the chairman's speech were largely of a plain and businesslike character.

THE SUNDAY NEWSPAPER SELLING NUISANCE.

A POLICE SEIZURE.

Before the Potteries Stipendiary yesterday, seven boys (whose ages ranged from ten to fourteen years) were summoned for a breach of the Lord's Day Act by crying and exposing newspapers for sale on the Sunday morning, the proceedings being taken at the instance of the town council. The town clerk said the proceedings were taken under Sub-section 6 Section 1 of the Act, which provides that no person whatever should publicly cry, show forth, or expose for sale any wares, goods, or chattels whatsoever upon the Lord's Day, under pain of forfeiture of the articles cried or exposed for sale. The object of the Corporation was not so much to prevent the sale of the papers as to suppress the nuisance caused by the shouting of the newsboys. The Stipendiary: And that you cannot do under this Act. Mr. Sutton (magistrates clerk): Yes, sir; it is a distinct offence under the Act to cry out in the street. The stipendiary said he thought it had been a question of nuisance; but having referred to the section he observed that there were two offences—the exposure for sale and the public crying of the papers. The only penalty for the latter offence was the seizure and forfeiture of the articles they were crying. Mr. Taylor, a representative of the Sunday paper complained of, said his principals had given strict instructions to their agents that the boys were not to shout in the streets, and that if they did so the papers were to be withheld from them. Any complaints by the police as to the shouting of their newsboys would receive immediate attention. The defendants all denied that they were shouting the names of the papers. The stipendiary said it was clear from the evidence that an offence under the Act had been committed by the defendants, and it was therefore his duty to issue his warrant for the sale of the papers seized by the police, and if there was any balance from the proceeds of such sale after the payment of the costs it must be handed over to the boys. As the complainants, the Corporation were required to pay costs amounting to £2 5s. Mr. Taylor said the case was one of considerable importance, and he wished to know whether the decision of the magistrate related to the Sunday trading or shouting. The stipendiary: Simply to the shouting. The town clerk said he had no instructions to proceed to prevent anything but the shouting. Mr. Taylor said his firm would do everything they could to prevent that in the future.

THE LLANERCH COLLIERY DISASTER INQUIRY.

EXTRAORDINARY EVIDENCE.

Extraordinary evidence was given yesterday at Pontypool at the inquiry into the Llanerch Pit disaster. The explosion, which occurred on the 6th of this month, resulted in the loss of 176 lives. Mr. E. Jones, one of the proprietors of the mine, was the principal witness examined. The pit, he said, had always been worked with naked lights, and the men preferred them to locked lamps. Mr. Martin, inspector of mines, correspondence he had had with the owners of the colliery. In one letter they said the ventilation had been so much improved that they felt confident the inspector would be satisfied, but he wrote again urging that locked lamps should be used in the workings. The use of safety lamps, he pointed out, was not in lieu of ventilation, but as a safeguard against exceptional circumstances. Firedamp had been frequently met with in the workings, and this showed that in any temporary obstruction of the ventilation current fire-damp might be expected to accumulate. He trusted that the matter would have their serious consideration, and insisted that the eighth general rule should be strictly enforced. This rule in the Coalmines Regulation Act sets forth that no lamp or light other than a locked safety lamp shall be allowed or used in any place in the mine in which there is likely to be such a quantity of inflammable gas as to render the use of naked lights dangerous.

"RESOLVED TO MAKE JESUS COLLEGE DISCORGE."

The Welsh members, under the leadership of Mr. Stuart Rendel, are resolved to make Jesus College, Oxford, disgorge a sum of £20,000, which rightfully belongs to Wales. This sum is to be secured in such a way as Mr. Meyrick, who is somewhere back in the time of the Stuarts. He left a sum of money, which, like other ancient endowments, has almost fabulously increased in value. The Endowments Commissioners, going into the matter a few years ago, apportioned £20,000 of the bequest to the assistance of intermediate education in Wales. Owing to some unfortunate oversight, a formality essential to the obtaining of the money was omitted, and the authorities of Jesus College have hitherto profited by the blunder. Whilst the college is rich, Wales is for educational purposes poor, and means to have restitution made. The meeting held in one of the committee-rooms of the House of Commons yesterday was attended by most of the Welsh members, and had the approval of all—Liberal, Conservative, or whatever they may be. If the authorities of Jesus College do not make restitution gracefully, the aid of Parliament will be invoked to obtain it, and the Government are not likely to resist the unanimous demand of the Welsh members.—*Liverpool Post.*

RESIGNATION OF MR. W. L. BRIGHT, M.P.

At a meeting of the United Liberal Council of Stoke-on-Trent, held last night at Fenton, a letter was read from Mr. W. L. Bright, tendering his resignation as member for the borough, and intimating his intention, on the ground of ill-health, to apply for the Chiltern Hundreds. The resignation was accepted, and Mr. George Leveson-Gower was invited to contest the constituency. Mr. W. Shepherd Allen, formerly member for Newcastle-under-Lyme, will be the Unionist candidate.

A "CAPTAINCY" FOR MR. GLADSTONE.

It is stated that the Captaincy of Deal Castle, which carries with it a residence at Deal Castle, is to be offered to Mr. Gladstone. The captaincy is in the gift of the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, Earl Granville.

MR. BIGGAR'S BEQUEST TO MR. HEALY.

It is stated that Mr. Biggar, M.P., died possessed, exclusive of real estate, of upwards of £50,000, the major portion acquired by him in the business at Belfast, part of which was bequeathed by his father and part by his uncle. According to his will, the bulk of his estate is to be divided amongst his relatives. Mr. Healy, M.P., to whom the deceased was much attached, comes into possession of Waterford Castle, and a large sum has been bequeathed to Catholic charities and religious orders.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS STEEPLECHASE.

There is to be a House of Commons Steeplechase again this year. A private meeting of members who take an interest in the matter has been held under the presidency of the Marquis of Lurmarben, when a committee was appointed to select a course, fix a date (which will probably be Saturday, March 29), and arrange other details. The programme will include a race for the farmers of the district chosen for the steeplechase. There is some talk of a similar competition for members of the House of Lords.

THE PHYSIOLOGY OF SINGING.

An interesting lecture, illustrated by excellent coloured diagrams, was delivered last evening at the Jubilee Hall, Hornsey, by Dr. James Donelan, on the "History and Physiology of Singing." Dr. Donelan traced the early development of song, and referred to our remote ancestors as dwelling in some Arcadia, anticipating Wagner and "the music of the future" by making simple musical sounds express all possible emotions and sentiments. The lecturer gave a clear and detailed account of the various organs concerned in the production of the human voice, and concluded his remarks with an account of "that bone of contention, the registers." In this he inclined to the view taken by the old Italian teachers, and so strongly advocated by Sir Morell Mackenzie, that there are only two divisions of the voice—namely, the chest register and the head or falsetto register.

EASY DRAUGHT ATTACHMENT FOR VEHICLES.

Lord Suffield presided last night at a descriptive lecture delivered at the Animals' Institute, Wilton-place, S.W., by Mr. T. H. Brigg, on an automatic easy draught attachment for vehicles. The invention has already been described in our columns, and its advantages in easing the labour of horses, especially in ascending inclines, was clearly demonstrated. Professor Atkinson, Mr. Hooper, president of the Institute of Coachmakers, and other practical men, expressed their belief that Mr. Brigg's theory was a sound one, and that at any rate it could be applied to heavy vehicles with advantage. Simplification of the system of levers at present used was, however, considered necessary.

The Chinese Minister and suite left Charing-cross station at ten o'clock this morning for Paris, viâ Boulogne.

General the Right Hon. Sir Thomas Montagu Steele, G.C.B., Colonel of the Coldstream Guards, died suddenly yesterday. He served in the Crimea, and had attained his seventieth year.

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

HOME RAILWAYS FIRM.—FOREIGN STOCKS STEADY.—AMERICANS WEAK.—MODERATE BUSINESS.

There is again a fairly good demand for accommodation in the open market but an easier feeling has been produced by the action of the Bank of England in lending ½ instead of ¾ per cent. above the official minimum Short loans command 5 per cent. outside, while the discount rate for three months' bank paper is 4 to 4⅛ per cent. The New York Exchange on London continues to give way, and the Paris cheque exchange is weak.

The downward movement in prices of Stock Exchange securities is somewhat irregular, but on the whole the tone is slightly good, there being a rather more assured feeling with regard to the future of the Money Market. The fact of the Bank of England only charging 5½ per cent. for loans has also to some extent assisted operators for the rise. Consols are steady without material alteration, but in the Home Railway market there is a general advance, except in the case of the stocks of the Underground lines, especially Metropolitan, owing to the unsatisfactory traffic. In other directions the traffics are fairly satisfactory. Foreign Government Bonds are steady to firm, but the movements are slight. The gold premium at Buenos Ayres has further risen, being now quoted at 153.75 per cent. American Railroads have all given way on reports—to-day—of lower New York quotations. Trunks are steady, but Mexican Railway issues are dull. Bell's Asbestos shares have fallen heavily on the decision of the Admiralty with reference to its contracts with this firm. The price which last night closed at 13 is now no better than 11⅜.

The list of applications for shares in the Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union (Limited) will close to-morrow for town and country, and Friday for abroad.

The National Provincial Bank of England (Limited) give notice that the transfer books of the Stock Conversion and Investment Trust (Limited), for the first issues of £1,000,000 Three and a Half per Cent. First Charge, and £500,000 Four per Cent. Second Charge of the London and North Western Railway, will close for the preparation of dividend on February 28, and reopen March 10, when the dividend will be paid on March 15.

The chairman of the Notting-hill Electric Lighting Company (Limited) stated at a meeting yesterday that the result of the recent application to the public had been a subscription of about £70,000, which was sufficient to comply with the terms of the Act.

The directors of the Glasgow and South Western Railway Company recommend a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum. The sum of £7,000 is added to the contingent fund, and £6,030 carried forward.

RAILWAY TRAFFICS.—*Increases*: North Eastern, £10,183; Midland, £9,073; Lancashire and Yorkshire, £3,037; Great Eastern, £2,398; North Staffords, £710; Metropolitan District, £201; Eastern and Midland £40 *Decrease*: Metropolitan, £166.

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Increases*: London Street, £112; South London, £37; London, £270; North Metropolitan, £57; Belfast, £134; Sheffield, £103; Calcutta, £47; Continental Metropolitan, £129; Bordeaux, £223; Gothenburg, £65; Sunderland, £22; Swansea, £17; Glasgow, £338; Rouen, £21; Germany, £88; and Edinburgh, £13. *Decreases*:—Provincial, £416; Southampton, £11; and South Western of Brazil, £17; Imperial, £4.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet with a moderate demand. Probable sales 7,000 bales. Futures are steady at half a point advance.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing :—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Brighton Deferred ⅜, South Eastern Deferred ¼, North British Preferred ¼, the Deferred ⅛, Chatham Preference ⅛, the Ordinary ⅛, and Great Eastern ⅛. *Receded*: Metropolitan ¾, District ¼, and Great Western ⅛.

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Advanced*: Argentine Great Western ⅛, Buenos Ayres Great Southern ¼, Brazilian Sao Paulo (small) ½, ditto (fully paid), Buenos Ayres of 1883 ½, Ecuador ¼, Greek of 1881 ¼, Peruvian Five and Six per Cents. and Spanish 1-16. *Declined*: Uruguay Unified, Egyptian Daira ⅛, and Italian 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—*Risen*: Central Pacific, New York Central, Northern Pacific Preference, and Pennsylvania shares ¼ each, Denver Preference ¼, the Ordinary ⅛, and Louisville and Nashville shares ⅜ each. *Fallen*: Illinois Central ½, Milwaukee shares, Norfolk and Western Preference, and Union Pacific shares ⅜, Wabash Preference and Mortgage ¼, Erie Second Mortgage ¼, the shares ⅝, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas, and Ontario shares ⅝.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher*:—Mexican Central Bonds, Nitrate shares ¼ each, Grand Trunk Second Preference and Guaranteed ½. *Lower*: Eastern Bonds ¼, Grand Trunk Second Preference ½.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved*: Colorado and Primitiva Nitrate ¼, Rio Tinto 3-16, De Beers ⅛, and Oceana Land ⅛. *Receded*: Elmore's Copper ¼, and Tharsis 1-16.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares :—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols(2¾)Money	97⅛	⅛
Do. Account	97⅛	⅛
Do. 1905	99½	100
New 2¾ per Cents.	97⅛	⅛
Local Loans Stock.	102¾	3/4
India 3½ per Cents.	107	½
Do. 4½ p. c. Ru.	70¼	1
Egyptian Unified	101½	⅜
Bk. of England St.	353	6
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½ p.c.	112¾	¾
Do. 3 p. c. Stg	102	
Birmingham 6½ p.	110	11
Leeds 4 per cent. ..	115	17
Liverpool 3½ p. c.	112½	15
Manchester 4 p. c.	126	8
COLONIAL SECURITIES.		
Canada 4 p. c. Reg.	107	9
Canada 3 p. c. Reg.	86	6
Cape 4 p. c Cons Ins	110½	11½
Ceylon 4 p. c. Ins.	110½	13½
Mauritius 4 p. c. Ins.	109	½
N.S. Wales 4 p. c. C.1957	110½	11½
N.S. Wales Ins 1933	113	15
" 3½ 1924....	104	½
New Zealand 4½ p.c.	116½	½
Queensland 4 p.c. Ins.	110	11
S. Austn. 4 p.c. Reg.	109	10
Victoria 4 p.c. c.1885	111½	12½
W. Australia 4 p.c. Ins.	109	½
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentn 4½ p.c. 1888	80¼	1½
Do. 3½ p.c. Extnl.	61½	2½
Do. Cedulas A	9½	5½
Do. B	4	¼
Austrian Gold	93	
" Silver..	74	6
Brazilian 4½ p.c. Rg.	89¼	¾
Do. 1889 (fully pd)	75	½
Do. ,, (partly pd)	71½	10½
B. Ayres 6 p.c. 1888	100	1
,, Cedulas "1"	30¾	3½
,, "J"	30¾	1¼
Bulgarian	88½	9½
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1889	101	½
Costa Rica 6 p. c. ..	90	2
,, B.....	87	9
Ecuador, New	24¼	¾
Egypt. Unified	101¾	4½
Do. Daira Sanieh	83½	4¼
French 3 p.c. Rentes	99¾	7¼
Do. 4½ p.c. Rentes	104	¾
Greek 5 p. c. 1881-4.	90	½
Do. 4 p. c. Mon.	67¾	¾
Hung. Gold Rentes	87¾	¾
Italian	92¼	¾
Mexican 6 p.c. 1888.	95	½
Peruvian 5 p. c. 1872	37¾	⅜
Do. 6 p. c.	20½	¼
Portuguese.....	26⅞	3¼
Russian 5 p. c. 1889	98¾	¾
Spanish 4 p. c.	70¼	¼
Turkish, 1854.....	102	4
Conv. A	40¾	¾
Do. B	21¼	3/4
Do. D	17¾	18
4½ p. c. 1871	96	½
5 p. c. Defence ..	102	½
5 p. c. Priority ..	97	½
Uruguay Unified ..	72⅝	3
Do. 6 p. c. 1888 ..	88¾	¾
Virginia Funded ..	44¾	5/8
U.S. 6's p. c.	7	1/16
BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Brighton Ordinary	154	6
Do. A	152¼	¾
Chatham Ordinary	23¼	⅜
Do. Preference	109¾	⅜
Caledonian	126½	¾
Great Eastern	83⅝	⅜
Great Northern ..	124	5
Do. A	130	1

Great Western	166½	7
Hull and Barnsley.	37¾	8¼
Lanc. and York. ..	121½	2½
North Western	180	½
South Western	154½	⅝
Manch. and Sheff..	88	90
Do. A	43¼	⅜
Metro. Consolidated	77½	⅜
Do. Extension	24¾	¼
Midland	145¾	6
North Brit. Pref..	77¾	8¼
Do. Def.	36½	⅜
North Eastern	165	3
North Stafford	111	13
South Eastern	128	30
Do. Deferred	103½	¼
Taff Vale	72	81
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific....	76½	⅛
Cen. Pacific Shares	33¾	4¼
Chic. Mil. and St. Pl.	69¼	70
Denver & R. Grande	15¾	¼
Do. Preference	48¾	9¼
Illinois Shares	116½	17½
Lake Shore	107¾	¼
Louis & Nash.	78¾	7½
Miss. Kan. & Texas	7¾	8
N.Y. Central Shares	103½	9¾
New York Ontario	19¾	⅜
N. Y. Erie Shares	26½	⅛
Do. Second Mort.	103	¼
Norfolk & West. Pref	62	¼
N.Y., P. & N. Shares	27¾	⅜
North Pacific Pref.	75½	6½
Ohio & Mississippi	21½	2
Pennsylvania Sh...	58¾	6¼
Phil & Read. Shs.	23¾	⅜
Union Pacific Sh	67½	8
Wabash Preferred.	31¾	¼
Do. Gen. Mort.	17	½
Grand Trunk Ord..	10¾	11
Do. First Pref..	75¾	¾
Do. Second Pref.	50¾	¾
Do. Third Pref..	25¾	¾
Do. Guaranteed..	77¾	¾
Mexican Ordinary	36¾	7
Do. First Pref...	110¾	13
Do. do. 2nd Pref.	72¾	3
Mexican Central ..	72¾	¾
Mexican National	59¾	9½
Lombardo-Venetian	12	⅛
Nitrate Railway ..	13	¼
Taltal	4¾	⅝
B. Ayres & Rosario	165	70
Do. Great Southern	128	30
Central Argentine..	169	74
S. Paulo (Braz.) ..	44	6
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	14½	15½
City Bank	22	3
Colonial	50	2
Consolidated Bank	8¾	¾
Imperial	19½	20½
Imperial Ottoman..	19¼	5/16
London and County	69¾	90
Lloyds	26½	7½
Lon. and Westmin.	69	71
London Joint Stock	38¾	9½
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	56½	7½
Provincial of Ireland	24	5
Stand. Bk. of S. A.	54	6
Union of London ..	40¾	1½
National Discount	11½	12
TRUSTS.		
Fn. & Cl. Gov. Df.	135	40
Gov. Stk. Invst. Df.	112	16
Lon. and N.Y. Inv.	¼	½
Stock Conversion...	1¼	½
South African Gold	2½	¾
Trus., Inv., & Ser.	6¼	¾
MINING & LAND.		
Indian Con. Gold	2/0	2/6
Mysore Gold	6¼	¾

Oorugum Gold	2	¼
Cape Copper	3¼	⅛
Namaqua	2	⅛
Mason & Barry	6 3/16	6 5/16
Rio Tinto	15 9/16	11/16
Tharsis	4¾	⅞
Montana	1¼	⅜
De Beers	17	⅞
Globe Trading	6½	¾
New Jagersfontein.	12¾	13
City and Suburban.	7	½
Emperor's Gold	8	¼
Jubilee.....	4¾	5¼
Robinson	3¾	4
Salisbury.....	7	½
Sutherland Ext.	3	½
S. Afcn. Exploratn.	20¾	⅜
Do. New.....	2¾	3/8pm
G. F. of Sth. Africa	4¾	⅝
Exploring Co.	15	½
Oceana Land.....	10¼	11¼
Southern Land....	⅛	3/8pm
Transvaal Land ..	⅛	3/8pm

TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE

Anglo-American ..	43¾	9¼
Do. Preferred	62	3
Brazilian Submarine	12¾	¼
Direct United States	9¾	10¼
Eastern	13¾	14⅜
Globe Telegraph ..	13¾	14
Globe Teleg. Trust	3¾	⅛
National Telephone	4¾	5¼

OMNIBUS AND TRAM

Lon. Gen. Om.	190	200
London Road Car..	5¼	⅜
Lon. Tramways	270	2
London Tramways.	14¼	15¾
North Metropolitan	13¾	⅜

WATERWORKS.

Chelsea Waterwks.	260	5
East London	211	15
Grand Junction....	122	7
Kent.....	270	2
Lambeth	252	6
New River, New...	350	5
Do. Ord. & Pref. ..	164	9
Tarapaca	11	¼
West Middlesex ..	260	5

GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT

Gaslight & Coke A	243	6
Imp. Continental..	210	15
South Metropolitan	204	8
Do. C	225	30
Do. C	235	45
London Electric ..	2¾	3¼
Metrplitan Electric	8¾	⅞

MISCELLANEOUS.

Allsopp's.....	7	¾
Bell's Asbestos	13	15
Guinness and Co..	342¾	7¼
Hotchkiss	7¼	¾
Maxim-Nordenfelt..	2¾	¼
Bryant and May ..	15¾	⅜
Eastman's Ord	15¾	16¼
Elmore's Copper,&c	6	⅛
Spratt's Patent	7¾	⅛
Liverpool Nitrate..	13	15
Colorado Nitrate ..	4¾	¾
Primitiva Nitrate..	15	⅛
Mexicia	3	¼
San Pablo	6	¼
San Jorge	6	⅜
San Donato	3¾	¾
Tunaragual	2	⅜
Salt Union Shares	11¾	¾
P. and O. Stean Def.	199	203
Royal Mail Steam	71	6
Hudson's Bay	20¾	¼
Suez Canal.....	90¾	⅛
E. & W. India Docks	16	18
Lon. & St. K. Dock	83	6

"Pall Mall Gazette Office."

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

"The retirement of Prince Bismarck," writes a well-informed correspondent from Berlin, "may now be considered to be within measurable distance. The tone of the Conservative papers, which is becoming less respectful to the Chancellor every day, lends greater weight to the retirement rumours than they have hitherto had. The majority of the new Reichstag will in all probability be anti-Bismarckian; and under these unexpected circumstances the Prince's own wishes are not unlikely to fall in with the Emperor's impatience to be complete master in his own house. But in any case Prince Bismarck's retirement will only be gradual."

⁂

Mr. Arthur Priestley, the Liberal candidate for the Stamford division of Lincolnshire, is the youngest son of Mr. Briggs Priestley, M.P. He is only twenty-eight years of age, but has seen a great deal of the world, having travelled widely. Next to politics, he is most interested in cricket and animals. He is very fond of dogs and horses, and has ideas as to the intelligence of animals. He does not pretend to make set speeches, but reasons his way through a subject impromptu, as he would in private. Mr. Priestley is unmarried. He has throughout his preliminary electioneering been invariably treated with courtesy by his Conservative opponents, and has been friendly with Mr. Compton Lawrance, the retiring member and new judge.

⁂

Liberal prospects in the Stamford division are much better than would appear from the mere figures. In 1885, the Tory majority was 1,101; but the Liberal candidate on that occasion was a weak one, or at any rate not nearly so strong as Mr. Priestley. The fight in Stamford will be a better one (so a local Liberal writes) than Sleaford; for "Priestley is a far better candidate than Otter was, and Cust is weaker than Chaplin, while the electors are very much more independent."

⁂

In 1886 Mr. (Justice) Lawrance was allowed to walk over; but the recent County Council elections have served to partially gauge the drift of public opinion. In the northern part of the division the Liberals did not fight; but in the south the Liberals won all along the line. "The crucial question," says my local correspondent, "is the state of feeling in the northern part of the division, where the landlord influence is very strong; but there is a bare possibility that we may win." Let us hope; but of course we have no right or reason to expect it.

⁂

To-day the election of a headmaster of Haileybury takes place. The favourite candidates are still Mr. Lyttelton of Eton and Mr. Westcott of Rugby, either of whom would well sustain the traditions of the college.

⁂

Lecturers almost numberless have gossiped about the treasures of the nation's storehouse — the British Museum, but they have chiefly devoted themselves to some individual section of it, there is so much in it to talk about. It has been left to Mr. Louis A. Fagan to present to a mixed audience a bird's-eye view of the complete establishment. He has done this to some advantage in his three lectures of seventy-five minutes apiece. He was especially at home last night in dealing with the prints and the drawings. He began by giving some little bits of history about the institution, its founders, and its donors, and its ways and means, calling in, as before, the magic lantern as a valuable help to give his facts practical illustration.

⁂

Then came the Print Room—truly a great storehouse of invaluable treasures, treasures that will keep the artists' names alive long after their pictures have become things of shreds and patches. Quite a eulogium was made over the work of James MacArdell, prince of mezzotinters and exponent of the works of Reynolds, Hogarth, and Zoffany. Sir Robert Strange, Valentine Green, John Raphael Smith, whose work after Reynolds and Romney is now closely husbanded by collectors, were next discussed. Though many other engravers of this time were overlooked, Earlom was remembered. No talk about engravers would be complete without Turner and his "Liber Studiorum." Two excellent specimens were given from it. To some extent there is an English school of etching. Mr. Fagan threw upon the sheet a reproduction of Rembrandt's hundred guinea plate, but forgot those at home. The king of etchers, Mr. Whistler, was present, and should not have been overlooked.

⁂

Both the *Times* and the *D. T.* were wrong yesterday in stating that John Jacob Astor I. was a member of a well-known London firm of pianoforte manufacturers. The uncle of old John Jacob was in the employ of the firm, and the latter, after he had gone to America to sell musical instruments, did extensive business with the London firm; but neither he nor any of his kith or kin ever became partners. Here is a characteristic letter which Astor I. wrote on March 14, 1795, and which shows that though he was not over intimate with the King's English he was a straightforward man of business:—

> Gentlemen, Please too make me one of the Best grant Pianofortes you Can. I Rely on your Honor to Let it be a good one. I wish to have it Plain in every Respect and the Case of handsom wood the Belly may be chrewd fast when done Call on Mr. George Astor for the Payment. I shall wish to have it shipd in July or august next by the ship *Hope* for New York or any other good ship
> to be sent Mr. S. Astor
> I am Gentlemen
> With Respect yours
> John Jacob Astor
> City Coffee House Cheapside
>
> 630. A. G.P.F. addl. keys.

⁂

A printer's error is amusing the Queenslanders. Their leading newspaper, reviewing a work and prognosticating the wonders of science, remarked, "There need be demand no longer for Jules Verne's and other blackguards' works of imagination." The correction appeared in the issue of the following week as follows: "For 'other blackguards' please read 'Rider Haggard's.'"

⁂

Mr. A. W. Pinero was in his salad days a member of the Birkbeck Institution, and wrote his first dramatic effort for production by the Elocutionary Society at the Chancery-lane establishment. As a recognition of his early association with the place, Mr. Pinero has arranged to give a reading of "The Profligate," on the evening of Friday, May 16, for the benefit of the Library Fund of the institution.

⁂

My respects, Chevalier Cremer! In the eyes of everybody who in the least degree enjoys the acquaintance of Mr. Cremer, he must ever appear as a veritable Policeman of Peace; for, meet him when and where you will, he is perpetually preaching the principles of Peace. His former activity in advancing the interests of the old "International," and his intimate acquaintance with all that is best in the artisan and political world of France, and his deep anxiety for the highest interests of the French people, make most appropriate the honour which M. Spuller has just conferred upon him by investing him with the Order of a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. Bravo, the erst-time carpenter of Hants!

⁂

The word "forged" still sticks in the gullet of the *Times*. It will be remembered that when somebody rose to propose the prefixing of that epithet before the word "letter" the other day, Old Friend Smith readily accepted the insertion, with expressions of "detestation" of the circumstances under which the said "forged letter" was published. A correspondent writes to point out that in the *Times* report of the division the word "forged" is absolutely omitted from the amendment.

⁂

Every one remembers the pathetic appeal of those immortal lines of the Duke of Rutland—then Lord John Manners—those lines which alone are adequate, and which alone are likely, to make immortal his poetic fame:—

> Let wealth and commerce, arts and learning, die--
> But leave us still our old nobility!

Certain Unionists, with the Catos and Crackanthorpes of the *Times* correspondence column, seem to be chanting a variant on the couplet—

> Let fairness, common sense, and truth go by--
> But leave, oh! leave us "Mr. Parnell's Lie."

Facts, however, were too stubborn for them, and this morning they are dumb on the subject—the nearest point towards retractation which a Unionist can be expected to attain.

Bord's Pianos.—53 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand 10s. 6d. per month on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

BISHOP BARRY'S LECTURE AT LAMBETH.

A MEETING BROKEN UP IN CONFUSION

There was a large and characteristic gathering of *bonâ fide* working men, with a sprinkling of women, at the Lambeth Baths last night when Bishop Barry gave his fourth lecture, the subject being "Christianity and Trade."

Mr. Arthur Arnold was in the chair, and on entering with the Bishop loud cheers came from all parts of the audience. Mr. Arnold said some of the most interesting years of his life were passed in the Palace of Westminster, designed by the pencil and erected under the superintendence of the distinguished father of the Bishop, whose valuable services as an educationist at King's College, every Englishman should cordially recognize. When Mr. Arnold went on to speak of the distinguished University honours gained by Bishop Barry, some one cried out "What for?" which called forth enthusiastic cheers when the chairman said, "For his great learning."

The Bishop contended that all property was a trust from God to man; and trade, a lower part of this trust, implied the existence of some property, for we cannot sell what we do not possess. The best things in life cannot be bought or sold. Money can only buy the visible environments of life, and the work of the head or hand. Money cannot pretend to buy honesty or love, and no nation can purchase the enthusiasm of loyalty and patriotism. Though, however, the relation of trade is not the highest, it stimulates energy and skill, and is a civilizing force subserving often higher influences. He considered in some detail the circumstances of trade, and then said that not only those who owned themselves Socialists, but many others, felt that the existing conditions of wealth and poverty cannot possibly endure. (Loud cheers.) He protested, however, against the most unfair idea that persons in authority took this view from fear of revolution. When the bishop said that we had not yet in this country had any experience of the evils of excessive Socialism, there was some good-humoured interruption. Turning to the question of the teaching of Christianity as to trade, he said that the social doctrine of Christianity as to trade is summed up in the words, "Owe no man anything; render to all their dues." If we sell goods they are to be what we profess to sell, without adulteration or false trade marks; if we sell our manual or head labour it must be the best, and we must not waste the goods of our employers for whose interests we should care. (A voice: "Do they care for ours?") Christianity, he said, trusted not merely to law dealing with commercial dishonesty as a crime, but still more to a higher morality in the hearts of men for the purification of trade.

Mr. William Morris said that the lecture was an entire evasion of the whole subject, as the Bishop had not told them what he meant by property. Morality, he admitted, was necessary for any society not resembling wild beasts; but why preach morality to a society founded on robbery? The Bishop's arguments were good if he was addressing a society of equals; but his morality, ethics, economics, and religion were those of the middle classes. Free competition was also possible among a society of equals who would not desire to compete with one another. The union of capital and labour was like that of the tiger and the lamb. The contract as to wages was not a free but a compulsory one. Wages were from beginning to end a piece of oppression, and the rations of the slave. The professional and privileged classes were unfortunately parasites. ("Time, time," "Order, order.")

Other speakers followed, the last who gained a hearing being a reporter, who spoke as a Christian Socialist and a member of the Guild of St. Matthew. On the chairman announcing the name of a gentleman on the platform there was a terrible uproar. A Mr. Mowbray, from the body of the hall, insisted that the cards were being manipulated, and he and his friends could not listen to the chairman's ruling. He came on the platform, and the speaker, who had been called on, having waived his right to speak, Mr. Mowbray essayed to do so. The people, however, would not listen to him, and there were loud cries for "Barry." A perfect Babel of confusion prevailing, the chairman and the Bishop wisely left the hall. The cards were taken in the exact order in which Mr. Arnold received them, and it was a sad sight to see men who had listened attentively to an hour's lecture become violent and intolerant under a total misconception of a point of order.

PEACE OR WAR IN MASHONALAND?

DR. CLARK AND THE CHARTERED COMPANY.

The desultory discussions last night in Supply on Bechuanaland and Matabeleland, in which Dr. Clark attacked the administration of the former and the operations in the latter of the Chartered Company, have moved the indignation of a gentleman interested in Mr. Rhodes's venture.

"You must remember," said he, "that Dr. Clark is an official of the Transvaal. As a representative not of her Majesty but of President Kruger, it is natural that he should dislike both the administration of Bechuanaland and the work of the British South Africa Company. It was the protectorate of Bechuanaland which secured to England the right of way to the interior, which in the long run will make the Cape Colony what it is meant to be—the land open to all comers. It is all very well to talk of all this as a game of grab; but from an agent of the Transvaal such protests only mean that it is they who want to do the grabbing."

"What about the alleged misgovernment of Bechuanaland?"

"As regards the Crown Colony and the Protectorate, it is no doubt true that the Imperial Government is at a disadvantage in keeping up an administration in outlying territories like these. The country is at present poor, and has to be economically administered. That is certainly done. Judicial, administrative, and executive functions are combined; and though it is said to work very fairly, no doubt there is strength in the argument that, when the proper time arrives for annexation to Cape Colony, the colony will be able by a simple extension of their machinery of government to manage things cheaper and more efficiently."

"And as regards the third and largest part of Bechuanaland—that beyond the Crown colony and the protectorate—which is only under our 'sphere of influence?'"

"That is another question. At present we have not assumed the sovereignty in that region. I think the company would be only too glad to have that part well policed and in a settled condition under Imperial government while they are working away to the east. Meanwhile it is the most arrant nonsense to talk about them as fomenting disturbance, involving the Government in war, and using Government forces to pull the chestnuts out of the fire. The boot is all on the other leg. The whole principle of the chartered company is that they are willing, for what they can make out of the country, to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for John Bull. Their first interest is to do this quietly, peacefully, and inexpensively. Of course there may be a collision with Lobengula. But they are going the right way to prevent it by thoroughly policing the country with a capable force which can maintain order both against the natives and against any liquor dealers and filibusters who may be contemplating the raids which Dr. Clark and other alarmists threaten. That they will do, without asking the Government for a cent or a bayonet. As for the company's rights, Dr. Clark ignores the fact that it holds its title direct from King Lobengula."

A LADIES' DAY AT THE NATIONAL LIBERAL CLUB.

All the Women's Liberal Associations of the metropolis, with one exception, together with several from the home counties to the number of thirty-four, are to hold an all-day gathering at the National Liberal Club on Friday. Lady Sandhurst is to preside, and Lady Aberdeen, the Countess of Carlisle, Mrs. R. K. Causton, Miss Jane Cobden, Miss Emma Cons, Lady Farrer, Lady Agatha Russell, the Hon. Maude Stanley, and others are to take part in the proceedings. The agenda comprises resolutions on social, electoral, temperance, financial, and international reforms. Special prominence is to be given to such questions as the housing of the poor, the improvement of the condition of working women, the extension of the Factory Acts, the election of women as county councillors, free education, and disestablishment. The eight hours day question is also to be discussed. The delegates from the Hampstead Association have given notice that they will move, "That with a view to a general reduction of the hours of labour wherever practicable, it is desirable that all public authorities and privileged monopolists should set the example of reducing the working day, except in case of emergency, to eight hours, and further desires to express its sympathy with the tramcar men and railway employés in their efforts to obtain some modification of the present hours of labour." No fewer than thirteen associations have given notice of resolutions declaring that the time has come when the extension of the franchise to women on the same terms as to men ought to be included in the Liberal programme.

THE AGED RHINOCEROS AT THE ZOO.

The Zoo is at present well furnished with specimens of the rhinoceros. Out of the six living species no fewer than four may be inspected in the elephant house. The Indian and the Sumatran species are generally on view; but if an unkind fate were to cut off "Theodore," the African rhinoceros, he would be with difficulty replaced. Theodore has already been with us since 1868, and so is not, perhaps, quite in the flower of his youth. This is the only species of rhinoceros from Africa which has been ever exhibited alive in Europe.

HATCHARDS, BOOKSELLERS, 187, PICCADILLY, W.—All the New and Standard Books; discount, 3d. in the shilling. Post orders promptly executed.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL AT WORK.

THE BLACKWALL TUNNEL SCHEME.

The Council met yesterday at Guildhall, Lord Rosebery presiding. Immediately after the formal opening of business several members arose and presented petitions relating to the Blackwall Tunnel question. Mr. McDougall, Mr. W. Hunter, and others read aloud their lists of suppliants, and Lord Rosebery furnished an effective climax by stating that he had been entrusted with a petition from the Executive Committee of the Borough of Greenwich Conservative Association. The proposal was as a singular tribute to my impartiality," added his lordship, in humorous vein. Michael Davitt was present in one of the galleries during a portion of the sitting. Professor Stuart, one of the aldermen recently elected, entered early in the afternoon, and took a seat amidst a group of East-end members.

"THE LICENSING OF ACTORS"—A MYTH.

The report of the Parliamentary Committee recommended the approval of the "draft of a bill, prepared by the Theatres' Committee, to confer powers on the Council over theatres, music-halls, and other places of entertainment, and for other purposes." Mr. Fardell declared that the draft bill contained no provision whatever to the effect that actors and actresses should be required to take out a licence yearly, the expression "place of public entertainment" not meaning a theatre. The clause, however, will affect performers in music-halls. The consideration of the bill was postponed for a week; but Mr. Fardell drew attention to the premature publication of the draft bill, which could only have been done by a breach of faith on the part of one of the members. Lord Rosebery added that a grave breach of trust had clearly been committed by somebody; and he suggested that in future private and confidential documents should be numbered and endorsed with the names of the persons to whom they were entrusted.

BLACKWALL—BRIDGE, FERRY, OR TUNNEL?

Mr. Osborn, chairman of the Bridges Committee, moved the following recommendation:—"That the Council do proceed with the formation of the tunnel authorized by the Thames Tunnel (Blackwall) Act, 1887." He reminded the Council that for several years the question of inter-communication between the eastern and south-eastern districts had been pressed upon public attention. In 1882 Sir Joseph Bazalgette had reported to the Metropolitan Board of Works that in his opinion a tunnel was the only suitable means of effecting a permanent crossing at Blackwall. In 1887 Parliamentary powers were obtained, specifications were prepared, tenders advertised for, and the late Board accepted a contract when at the very point of death. After much delay, inevitable under the circumstances, the Council was at last in a position to arrive at some conclusion upon this most important subject. The inhabitants of the East-end had been grossly neglected. There were thirteen bridges west of London Bridge, but there was no means of communication eastward. Judging from the volume of traffic on Blackfriars, Waterloo, and Westminster Bridges, he was confident that there was ample justification for the construction of the proposed tunnel. A steam-ferry would be hopelessly inadequate, and he maintained that there were fatal objections to a high level bridge as suggested in Mr. Wolfe Barry's report. The committee sought power to order specifications and drawings to be made for one tunnel, suitable for vehicular traffic. Time and experience would then show how the means of communication could be extended to the best advantage. Mr. Arthur Arnold moved an amendment opposing the construction of a tunnel. He urged that the neighbourhood of the proposed works was poor and thinly inhabited, there not being six houses within half a mile on the Kent side. The tunnel, if made, would be a conspicuous failure. Mr. Beachcroft and Mr. Charles Harrison followed on the same side. The latter quoted at length from a written opinion furnished to him by Sir Andrew Clarke, who maintained that no case had been made out for the tunnel scheme. As an engineering experiment it would be full of interest; but estimates of its cost were worthless, as the outlay might exceed the estimate by 50 per cent. The Council adjourned in the afternoon was that of Mr. Bullivant (Poplar), who strongly advocated the tunnel scheme. He pointed out that the proceeds of the coal dues had been expended in improving and adorning the West-end, while the inhabitants of the east, who had largely contributed to the funds, had been entirely ignored. At the conclusion of Mr. Bullivant's speech, Lord Rosebery suggested that, in view of the vast importance of the subject, the debate should be adjourned, and resumed at a special meeting on Friday, March 7th. This was agreed to on the motion of Mr. Frederic Harrison.

MUSICAL MEMS.

It is now stated on very good authority that the contemplated season of Italian opera at Her Majesty's this year has been finally abandoned. After the "Cinderella" fiasco, this comes hardly as a surprise to any of us, even if we paid much attention to the original rumour. Nothing further has been heard of late also of the series of performances of German opera in the same house which was freely spoken of towards the close of last year.

The orchestra of the Royal Amateur Orchestral Society, under the conductorship of Mr. Geo. Mount, will lend their aid at the Mdme. Isabella Goddard benefit concert at St. James's Hall on March 11. The solo instrumentalists are Mdlle. Janotha, to whose initiative the concert is due, Herr Joachim and his faithful ally Signor Piatti.

The music of the title rôle in Ambroise Thomas's "Hamlet" would appear to be sufficiently elastic to admit of as many changes as would suit even a member of an English light opera troupe. Originally written for a tenor, it was altered to oblige M. Faure, a baritone; and in this condition it has been played for some time past. Now, in order to oblige M. Dereims, the music has been rewritten for the tenor voice by the composer. It will be put on at Monte Carlo on Saturday evening. The composer has personally superintended the rehearsals.

There was quite a scene at Messrs. Chappell's music publishing house on Saturday. That was the date announced for the publication of the vocal score of Sir Arthur Sullivan's "The Gondoliers." Twenty thousand copies of this arrangement of the work were sent into the country on that day, and, allowing Sunday for breathing time, the machines started printing the twenty-first thousand on Monday. The whole order, including the pianoforte score, the vocal score, the dance and other arrangements, reached the respectable total of over seventy thousand copies.

Dr. Hubert Parry's lecture on "Evolution in Music" at the Royal Institution on Friday will be followed on the four Thursdays in March by lectures on the Early Developments of the Forms of Instrumental Music by Mr. Fredk. Niecks, author of the "Life of Chopin." It will be accompanied by illustrations on bowed instruments and the pianoforte. The first lecture will deal with instrumental music before the seventeenth century, introductory remarks on instrumental music generally, the earliest music transmitted to us, the earliest printed instrumental music, its different classes, form and style.

The Strolling Players give their next smoking concert at the Princes' Hall on March 17th. The programme will include the overture to Benedict's tuneful "Lily of Killarney," the duet from which is so well known; Massenet's ballet music for "Le Cid," a new valse by Norfolk Megone and Suppé's not very classical "Light Cavalry" overture. The vocalists are Mr. Hirwen Jones and Mr. Norman Salmond.

Considerable progress is being made with the rehearsals of "The Pirates of Penzance," which is to be given on the 13th March by the Meistersingers' Amateur Operatic Society. Both Mr. D'Oyle Carte and Sir Arthur Sullivan have signified their intention of being present at the first performance. Mr. William Ganz conducted an excellent concert at the club last night. One of the most interesting items on the programme was Mendelssohn's Trio in C minor (Op. 66), well rendered by Miss Marie Douglas, Mr. Leo Stern, and Mr. Ganz. As for the rest of the programme, Miss Ida Sondheim, Mr. Arthur Oswald, Miss Alice Whitacre, Mr. Lawrence Kellie, and Miss Ada Patterson, were among those set down to sing.

A scheme is on foot to celebrate the centenary of Mozart's death by building a festival theatre at his birthplace. A site overlooking Salzburg has been purchased, and the theatre, which is designed to hold an audience of between 1,500 and 1,800, is expected to be completed in about a year. The estimated cost of the undertaking is £35,000—not a very large amount, surely, viewed in the light of English theatrical enterprise.

CHRISTIAN CABDRIVERS AT TEA.

Christian cabdrivers invited their fellow workers in South London, together with their wives and youngest babies, to a substantial tea last night in the Metropolitan, and about 400 responded to the invitation. They were truly of all sorts and conditions, for it is wonderful how spruce and gentlemanly a cabman can look in his best clothes and how neat and ladylike his wife is in her Sunday attire. But in many instances "the state of trade," as a cabman's wife expressed it, had rendered evening dress unattainable. Dressed or not dressed, however, the men, women, and babies heartily enjoyed themselves, and loudly applauded the efforts made to entertain them by the Christian Cabdrivers' Association—which, although it is not more than a year old, has already about 500 members.

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GENERAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

MR. HERBERT TRITTON ON THE GREAT STRIKE.

The half-yearly general meeting of the General Steam Navigation Company was held at the Cannon-street Hotel yesterday. Mr. J. Herbert Tritton, the chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the effects of the strike which had occurred during the half-year had been of a most serious character. It had cost the company not only the £22,000 gross profits referred to in the accounts, but nearly as much again—say the equivalent of a full 20 per cent. dividend for the whole year. The dock labourers struck in August, and a combination of the whole of the labour of the port was very soon effected. When work began again in November it was sporadic, and the men were naturally out of hand, and minor strikes kept on recurring, while the work which was done was not always well done. In fact, the cost of labour was increased by some thirty to forty per cent. Under these circumstances, however, they had done their best. (Applause.) Their ships were in some cases undisturbed in whole or in part for weeks, and they had frequently to send them to sea again with a part of the cargo still in their holds, in order at all hazards to keep their trade together. Trade by the Thames became almost impossible; and it was cruelly disappointing to the directors to see thousands of tons diverted to other routes which ought to have come in their ships to London. In one way, happily, the foresight of the directors had been fully justified. By their alliance with the Great Eastern Company, a considerable portion of their German traffic was brought by the company's vessels through Harwich to London. It was vitally essential to the conduct of their business that they should be able to depend upon the men who worked for them. He bore no grudge to them for the action which had brought the present state of things about. No business could be well regulated if the men were ill-paid, and they might be perfectly well satisfied that the men employed by the present company were not, and had not been, ill-paid. He hoped counsels of moderation and good sense would prevail all round. It was easy to divert trade; it was a very different thing to get it back again. If, however, there was to be another great struggle, the men would bring disaster upon themselves. The future of the company was a different matter altogether, for they could go elsewhere and follow the departing trade. After commenting at some length upon the accounts (which showed a dividend of 3s. per share for the half-year.) Mr. Tritton moved the adoption of the report. This, after a desultory discussion, was unanimously adopted.

THE SOUTH EASTERN AND CHATHAM AND DOVER.

Mr. W. R. Stevens writes to us on behalf of the South Eastern Railway Company as follows:—I am instructed to say that there is no foundation whatever for the statement that negociations are pending for a working arrangement between the South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Companies. The question has not been considered by the South Eastern Board or brought under their notice.

THE CONTEST IN NORTH ST. PANCRAS.

A FEW WORDS WITH MR. GRAHAM.

I had a few words with Mr. Graham (writes our representative) at his committee rooms yesterday. The Conservative candidate was very hopeful, and said that the reports of the canvassers were most satisfactory.

"But, Mr. Graham, that leaflet called 'Found Guilty,' which is being distributed by your agents is losing you votes. Do you approve of its conclusion?"

"Certainly, I believe the Parnellites guilty, though, as a matter of fact, that leaflet is being circulated not by us, but by *England*—Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett's penny dreadful—"But I thoroughly endorse it, I should be glad if you would call attention to this fact. This is the first election since the issue of the Commission Report, and the fight is entirely on the question—guilty or not guilty. Local matters are exciting comparatively little interest. Mr. Bolton called on me yesterday; and we agreed not to indulge in any personalities, or in disturbing each other's meetings. Of course, I have not done either of those things from the first. My meetings have been crowded to overflowing, but both sides are suffering from the paucity of space."

THE RAILWAY RATES INQUIRY.

The Board of Trade inquiry into railway rates was resumed at the Westminster Town Hall yesterday. Lord Balfour of Burleigh announced that the court had decided with reference to the return relating to the carriage of cotton asked for by the traders, that the best course would be for the companies to give the gross amount carried, the mileage, and the tonnage rates from Liverpool, London, and Hull to inland destinations, together with the details, leaving the court to say what portion should be disclosed. His lordship also stated that Sir Douglas Galton would be requested to commence his inquiry into the details of the stations of the London and North Western and Great Western Railways.

Mr. Stephens, superintendent of the Smithfield Meat Market, produced tables showing the enormous quantities of meat sent there, while several of the leading salesmen were called in opposition to the proposed maximum rates. Mr. Barber, salesman of Billingsgate Market, and deputy chairman of the National Sea Fisheries Association, denied that a ring existed in the market. He said that nine-tenths of the common fish were consumed by the working classes. Mr. McConochie, fish curer of London, Lowestoft, &c., attributed the greater portion of the depression in the fish industry of Great Britain to the failure of the companies to so arrange their rates to meet the changed conditions of the times.

SOLDIERS' RATIONS.

An important lecture was delivered yesterday at the Prince Consort's Library, Aldershot, by Colonel C. J. Burnett, commanding 1st Battalion Royal Irish Rifles, on the subject of soldiers rations. A large number of officers was present, including Sir E. Wood, commanding the Aldershot Division. Colonel Burnett described the method which he had lately employed in his battalion of providing the soldiers with good and plenty of wholesome food in addition to the Government rations, and showed that with a proper system of supervision and care how a varied menu could be obtained at the small cost of 5d. per head per diem. It is understood (writes a correspondent) that Colonel Burnett is engaged in composing a manual of diet and cookery for the use of the service in general, which has every prospect of being unanimously approved of.

A SNUB FOR A COUNTY COURT JUDGE.

The Lord Chief Justice yesterday refused to grant an application in the case of Murtagh *v.* Barry to have an appeal from a decision of Judge Stonor at Brompton set down for hearing at an early day. The ground on which the application was made was that his honour, who had ordered a new trial, had refused to stay the new trial till the appeal against his decision came on for hearing in the regular way. The action was in respect to the sale of a medical practice, in which the plaintiff alleged fraud against the defendant; but it was shown that the books had been inspected by the plaintiff, and the jury found a verdict for the defendant. His honour granted a new trial on the ground that he should not have found the same way as the jury. The Lord Chief Justice remarked this morning: "The county court judge appears to have a high view of his own position, but a less exalted view of the position of those whom Providence has placed over him, but I have no doubt he will do his duty." Their lordships refused to grant the application.

MORE ABOUT THE COAL DISCOVERY IN KENT.

Mr. George Dowker, F.G.S., a well-known Kentish geologist, writes:—"It would be rash to hazard a conjecture as to the probable yield of coal. The question resolves itself into the amount of disturbance to which the underlying palæozoic strata had been subjected prior to the deposition of the secondary strata. The Belgian coalfields are found in two basins—those of Dinant and Namur —but while the coal is of very little importance, and is not worked in the basin of Dinant, it is of great thickness and importance in Namur. It had been shown that the palæozoic strata had been met with at a less depth than 2,000 feet by the borings at Kentish Town, Crossness, and Richmond. The problem we are interested in concerns the coal measures of a subordinate portion of these older rocks. It will be an enormous boon to the coal consumers of our south-eastern counties if it should turn out to be a practicable scheme to provide our own coal by digging for it."

SINGULAR AND FATAL ACCIDENT IN WISCONSIN.

An ice house near Ashland, in Wisconsin, collapsed yesterday while thirty-five workmen were in the building. The majority were injured, some fatally.—*Reuter.*

DISASTROUS EXPLOSION IN HAVANNAH.

Intelligence from Havannah states that a barrel of gunpowder recently exploded in a house in the suburbs, causing injuries to thirty-five workmen, seven of whom were severely hurt.—*Reuter.*

The House of Lords' Committee yesterday decided to allow the Goldsmiths Company's Technical and Recreative Institute and the South London Polytechnic Institute Bills, which have not complied with the standing orders of Parliament, to pass.

COLLAPSE OF A GERMAN CONCERT HALL.

A Reuter's telegram from Hamburg says:—The roof of the "Flora" Crystal Palace and Concert Hall, which is just approaching completion, fell in yesterday with a tremendous crash. A number of men who were working in the interior of the building at the time were buried beneath the débris. Steps were at once taken to extricate them, when three were found dead, while eight others were badly injured. The colonnades and gardens were seriously damaged.

THE BEHRING SEA DISPUTE.

Telegrams have reached Ottawa from Washington stating that the Behring Sea dispute has been settled, and that Sir Julian Pauncefote has conceded the right of the Americans to exclude British sealers. This news (says a Dalziel despatch) causes great dissatisfaction, and the Government is blamed for not having sent a representative to Washington before.

A Washington despatch confirms the report of settlement. Damages to British vessels are to be settled by arbitration, and in future close time is to be the same in England and America.

THE ATLANTIC MAIL SERVICE.

The Canadian Government has refused to submit to Parliament the correspondence with the steamship companies in reference to the Atlantic mail service on the ground that negotiations were still pending.

THE SHIRE HORSE SHOW.

The Agricultural Hall presented an animated appearance yesterday, when the eleventh annual London show of the Shire Horse Society was opened. The fine weather has brought a larger crowd of people than usual on the opening day, and it is generally felt that the collection of horses is not only larger than on former occasions, but that the animals themselves present many better features. The influence of the society is making itself felt among breeders in all parts of the country, and the advantages accruing to holders of prizes granted at these shows, and from honourable mention thus obtained, are so obvious and so thoroughly appreciated that each year greater perfection is aimed at by horse-breeders, and the competition becomes more keen. The list this year consists of 646 horses, mares, stallions, and brood mares—an increase of nearly 200 over last year's show, among them appearing the names of many of the most celebrated animals in the kingdom. Among the exhibitors are the Queen, the Duke of Westminster, the Marquis of Bristol, Lord Belper, Lord Hothfield, Lord Middleton, the Countess of Camperdown, Earl Spencer, Lord Wantage, Lady Burdett-Coutts, Lord Egerton of Tatton, Mr. Walter Gilbey, Mr. P. Albert Muntz, and other well-known breeders. The value of the prizes this year is over £800, varying from the "Elsenham" Challenge Cup, worth £105, and given by Mr. Walter Gilbey for the best stallion in the show, to cups and medals and money grants of £50, £20, £15, £10, and £5.

Our representative at the Agricultural Hall had the advantage of a brief chat with Mr. Walter Gilbey, who may almost be called the father of shire horse breeding in this country—at all events the success which has attended the Shire Horse Society is largely due to the efforts and assistance of Mr. Gilbey, who, since the lecture delivered by Mr. Street some twelve years ago, has given the completest aid that his interest, influence, money, and acknowledged business capacity could accomplish.

"First of all," said Mr. Gilbey, "let me say that the cost price of the timber used to put up the stabling in the galleries, found necessary in consequence of the enormously increased number of horses shown, was £1,000. There are 212 extra boxes, and the whole of the fitting up for the show has taken ten days and nights to complete—for you will remember that eleven days ago the World's Fair was exhibiting here. There are 1,000 sacks of sawdust, and 70 tons, 400 bales, of peat moss-all used in the gallery.

"This year Lord Wantage has given a new prize—the 'Lockinge' Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, for the best mare or filly in the show. I have therefore made a little alteration in connection with the 'Elsenham' Cup. This was formerly given for the best animal in the show; it will now be given to the owner of the best horse. I would like you to mention the value of the veterinary inspection which accompanies all prize awardings, and upon the result of which the actual winning of a prize entirely depends. This is for the discovery, if there is any, of hereditary taint or unsoundness, and unless a horse can pass this examination it is disqualified.

"Our society has now over seven hundred members enrolled, and has published its eleven annual stud-book. Some idea of the value of this book may be gained when I tell you that £1,000 was paid for entry fees during last year. As an indication of the good done by the society, and the increased interest taken in the breeding of shire horses abroad, I may say that since our last show 1,500 certificates have been issued for horses to be sent to foreign countries, mainly to Canada and the United States. In our last stud book the entries included 2,232 stallions and 2,176 mares. You might also make mention of the fact that on Thursday at twelve o'clock the Show will be honoured with the presence of the Prince of Wales, who will witness the grand parade of all the animals, and will be taken on a tour of inspection round the building."

THE PROGRAMME OF THE WOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

A discussion on this subject took place on Monday, under the auspices of the National Liberal Club. The chair was taken by Mr. R. B. Haldane, M.P., in presence of a fairly large company, mostly of ladies. Mrs. Fenwick Miller opened the discussion. She remarked that its object was that of procuring equal civil and political rights with men. So its object was different from that of any other association that ever existed. The success already attained justified the formation of the League. There seemed unspeakable obstacles in the way of what had been accomplished. The league, begun last July, had already 140 members. Why should women not have freedom?—that was the question. They wanted it, first, for self-development. Let them enlarge their minds. Let them have and do everything they had a right to, and let no obstacle be put in their way. They were trying to drag the burden of life with one wheel. Mrs. Miller then spoke on the liberties secured by married women, who formerly had no legal existence. Women had no power of divorce. As to the custody of children, women had, of course, what a prominent politician lately called sex bias. Representative government had been granted to all sorts of men. Men and women must be put on an equality as regards divorce. Women required the immediate exercise of the parliamentary vote. The women of Wyoming from bad laws and cruel tyrannies could not speak for themselves. She appealed in faith to men to set wrong right. (Applause.)

CHANNEL STEAMER DISABLED.

A telegram from Dover, timed 10.12 A.M. yesterday, states that the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company's mail packet *Victoria* has been assisted to Dover from Calais by the Dover tug *Granville*, having rudder disabled.

THE KENDALS IN NEW YORK.

The Kendals scored another success on Monday in "The White Lie."—*Dalziel.*

MR. GEORGE CURZON BACK IN LONDON.

The Hon. George Curzon, M.P., has returned to London from his travels in Central Asia and Persia. Mr. Curzon rode 2,000 miles through the latter country.

THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

A Central News telegram from Berlin says:—It is announced that Herr Berlepsch will preside at the forthcoming Labour Protection Conference. The deliberations of the members will be conducted in the French language.

It is officially announced that, according to the desire of the German Government, the Federal Council has abandoned the proposal for holding an International Labour Conference in Berne on May 5th next.—*Reuter.*

THE "DEVIL'S DREAM" ON THE CHURCH CHIMES.

A Dalziel's telegram from Wicksville, Nebraska, says:—An Englishman named John Hicks Dawson, a sexton in that town, suddenly became insane after suffering from an attack of influenza. While delirious he played during the service the "Devil's Dream" on the chimes, and then threw himself from the steeple, and was killed.

A SOUTH AMERICAN MEAT SYNDICATE.

A new syndicate, says yesterday's Liverpool *Journal of Commerce*, is now being formed for the shipment of meat from South America to Liverpool. The undertaking is being carried out by a gentleman who was the promoter of two large companies now shipping meat from America and paying large dividends.

ACCIDENT TO A RICE AND TEA STEAMER.

A telegram from Sydney announces the arrival there of the steamer *Sikh*, after having been on Cairncross Reef. She was leaking badly, but in a telegram dated this afternoon the leakage is stated to be lessening. Agents advise discharge and repair in Sydney. The cargo, amongst other things, consisted of about 500 tons of rice from Japan, 700 tons tea from Foochow, with sugar from Java, and other general cargo.—*Lloyd's.*

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Bearing CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S *Names in full on the Labels.*

"THE WIENER ABENDPOST" (the official Government Organ of Austria), under date February 20th, says:—"We are authorized to declare that the authors of the scheme (The Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union, Limited), have had interviews with the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary, and have received the assurance of every support so long as the Company's operations are kept within the requirements of the Austrian law."

The SUBSCRIPTION LIST will CLOSE TO-MORROW (Thursday), Feb. 27, for Town and Country, and on FRIDAY for Abroad.

Amalgamation of

The Ebenfurth Paper Mills,
The Ebenfurth Wood Pulp Mills,
The Eggendorf Paper Mills,

All near Vienna, with over 150 acres of Freehold Property and three valuable waterfalls, representing 650 horse-power.

L. Bergmann and Company, Vienna, Newspaper and General Printers.

J. Eberle and Company, Vienna, Music Printers and Lithographers.

Hermann Schiele, Vienna, Bookbinding Establishment.

Thayer and Hardtmuth, Vienna, Berlin, Pesth, Manufacturing Stationers.

Frei and Sieber, Vienna, Coloured and Embossed Paper Manufacturers.

Victor Angerer, Vienna, Photographic Establishment.

J. Blechinger, Vienna, Helio and Zinco graphic Plate Manufacturers.

Edward Hölzel, Vienna, Geographical and Chart Publisher.

Gustav Feitzinger, Vienna, Account Book Manufacturer.

A. Hartleben, Vienna, Leipsic, Pesth, Publisher.

And the acquisition of the *Wiener Tagblatt*, Vienna, Morning and Evening Newspaper.

THE ANGLO-AUSTRIAN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING UNION (Limited).

Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1886, whereby the liability of members is limited to the amount of their Shares.

SHARE CAPITAL, £500,000. Debenture Capital, £250,000. Consisting of £5,000 Eight per Cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £10 each, £8,000 Ordinary Shares of £10 each; and £2,500 Mortgage Debenture Bonds of £100 each, bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

The Shares are payable, £1 per Share on Application, £4 on Allotment, £2 10s. on March 28th, and £2 10s. on March 31st.

The Debentures are payable, £10 per Bond on application, and balance on Allotment.

Both Shares and Debentures may be paid up in full on Allotment, and Dividends and Interest will calculated accordingly.

The interest on the Debentures will be paid quarterly, and the Directors have taken power to pay interim dividends on both classes of Shares half-yearly.

DIRECTORS.

The Right Hon. Sir HENRY A. ISAACS, Lord Mayor of the City of London, Chairman.

Horatio Bottomley, Esq. (Hansard Publishing Union, Limited), Vice-Chairman.

J. T. Agg-Gardner, Esq., M.P., Evesham House, Cheltenham.

Coleridge J. Kennard, Esq. (Director Consolidated Bank, Limited).

Sir Roper Lethbridge, K.C.I.E., M.P. (late Press Commissioner of India).

C. Kegan Paul, Esq. (Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner, and Company, Limited).

The Right Hon. Lord Teynham, Sidcup, Kent.

AUSTRIAN COMMITTEE.

Prince SERGIUS RADZIWILL (Chairman).

Heinrich Baron Heintz-Arnstein, Director of the Austrian State Railway Company.

Nicholaus Ritter von Scanavi, Banker, Vienna.

BANKERS.

The Consolidated Bank (Limited), 52, Threadneedle-street, E.C.; Charing-cross, S.W.; and Manchester.

J. N. Scanavi, Vienna.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. William Webb and Co., 6, Essex-street, Strand, London, W.C.

Dr. Ludwig Kunwald, Vienna.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Monkhouse, Goddard, and Co., Chartered Accountants, St. Swithin's-lane, E.C., and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Haggard, Hale, and Pixley, Stock Exchange, and 26, Austin-friars, London, E.C.

William H. Hart, Esq., Stock Exchange, and 24, Austin-friars, London, E.C.

Liverpool.—Messrs. R. Thompson and Co., Stock Exchange, and 2, York-buildings.

Manchester.—Messrs. Pixton and Coppock, Stock Exchange, and 12, Half Moon-street.

Leeds.—Messrs. John Redington and Co., Stock Exchange, and 78, Albion-street.

Edinburgh.—Messrs. J. W. Walker and Watson, Stock Exchange, and 14, South St. Andrew-street.

Glasgow.—Messrs. T. C. Cunningham and Brown, Stock Exchange, and 135, Buchanan-street.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—J. Straker Wilson, Esq., 23, Grey-street.

Huddersfield.—Messrs. Mellor and Winpenny, 1, Brook, Hall-street.

Halifax.—C. Ramsden Appleyard, Esq., 17, George-street.

SECRETARY (*pro tem.*).—St. John Winne, Esq.

REGISTERED OFFICES.—12 and 14, Catherine-street, Strand, London, W.C.

Prospectuses can be obtained of the Brokers, Bankers, and of the Secretary at the Offices of the Company.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of effecting a combination of the great Printing, Lithographic, Publishing, and kindred businesses of Vienna; of concentrating, as far as practicable, under the existing management, the resources of the various establishments, and thereby further developing the already enormous business at present carried on between England and Austria in the Printing and Publishing industries. The scheme has been warmly approved by Count Taaffe, the Prime Minister of Austria, the Marquis of Bacquehem, the Minister of Trade, and other members of the Government, who have promised the Company all the assistance in their power.

The firms comprised in the amalgamation represent practically every department of the Trade, the object having been to obtain the co-operation of the leading house in each branch, so that in future there might be one main organization open to English Printers and Publishers on the one hand, and to Austrian and Hungarian on the other, for the purposes of International trade. To facilitate the working of this system it is proposed to establish a direct Agency in London (connected by special wire with Vienna) through which the business of the Company can be transacted. Negotiations with this view are now in progress with the Hansard Publishing Union (Limited).

With reference to their investigation Messrs. Monkhouse, Goddard, and Co. have furnished the following report:—

20 and 21, St. Swithin's-lane, London, E.C., 20th January, 1890.

To the Directors of the Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union (Limited).

Gentlemen,—In accordance with instructions, we attended in Vienna, and examined the Books and Accounts of the following businesses proposed to be acquired by your Company, viz.:—Messrs. L. Bergmann and Co., Newspaper and General Printers; Mr. A. Hartleben, Publisher, of Vienna, Pesth, and Leipsic; Messrs. Frei and Sieber, Coloured and Embossed Paper Manufacturers; Messrs. Thayer and Hardtmuth, Manufacturing Stationers; Mr. Hermann Schiebe, Bookbinding Establishment; Messrs. J. Eberle and Co., Music Printers and Lithographers; Mr. Edward Hölzel, Geographical and Chart Publisher; Mr. Victor Angerer, Photographic Establishment; Mr. J. Blechinger, Helio and Zincographic Plate Manufacturer; Mr. Gustav Feitzinger, Account Book Manufacturer; The *Wiener Tagblatt*, Morning and Evening Newspaper; and we visited most of the Factories and Premises in which the various businesses are now being carried on.

Our investigations have been directed towards ascertaining the Profits of the various firms for a complete twelve months' trading, and though it has not been possible to obtain accounts covering precisely the same periods, we have, as far as possible, reduced the profits to the basis of a complete twelve months' trading, and as the result of our investigations we are satisfied that the profits which have been made on the above basis have been sufficient to pay the annual interest at 6 per cent. on £250,000 Debentures and dividend at 8 per cent. on £250,000 Preference Shares, and to leave a large surplus, available for the Ordinary Shares, after providing for management, and without reckoning any savings from amalgamation, and without taking into account the profit from the Paper Mills, as explained in the Prospectus.

We are, Gentlemen, yours faithfully,

MONKHOUSE, GODDARD, and CO., Chartered Accountants.

Full prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained at the Offices of the Company, or of their Bankers, Brokers, or Solicitors.

21st February, 1890.

NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION (Limited).

HEAD OFFICE: 40, Threadneedle-street, London.
WEST-END OFFICE: 25, Cockspur-street, S.W.
EDINBURGH OFFICE: 25, St. Andrew-square.
DUNDEE OFFICE: 6, Panmure-street.
BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.—Australia, India, Ceylon, China, Japan, Straits, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Persia, Aden, Paris, New York, San Francisco.

The Bank receives Deposits for three years or 5 per cent., also for shorter periods, and transacts Banking and Agency Business generally.

THE BANK OF AFRICA (LIMITED).
Head office, 115 A, LONDON-STREET, E.C.
Subscribed Capital, £750,000; paid up, £250,000; Reserve Fund, £75,000.

General Manager, JAMES SIMPSON, Port Elizabeth.
Branches: Aliwal North, Cape Town, Cradock, Grahamstown, Kimberley, Kokstad, Natal, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth, Queen's Town, Port Elizabeth, Queen's Town, Bethlehem, Bloemfontein, Fauresmith, Winburg, Durban, Newcastle, Pietermaritzburg, Robertson, Johannesburg, Pretoria.

The Bank issues drafts, remits telegraphic remittances, buys and collects bills, and conducts all kinds of banking business.

Deposits received on terms which may be ascertained on application.

R. G. DAVIS, Secretary.

LONDON LIFE ASSOCIATION.
Established 1806.
ASSURANCE FUND FOUR MILLIONS.
Mutual Assurance at Least Cost.
81, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY, Established 1836.
LONDON: 1, Moorgate-street, E.C.
ABERDEEN: 1, Union-terrace.
INCOME AND FUNDS (1888).
Fire Premiums ..... £915,000 | Life Premiums £205,000
Interest £149,000
Accumulated Funds £3,581,000

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE,
19, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.,
AND
57, CHARING CROSS, S.W.

SUN LIFE OFFICE

FOR DOUBLE OPTION ASSURANCES

WITH OR WITHOUT MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

Policies effected NOW *or before Mid-summer Day secure early and special*

ADVANTAGES.

DOUBLE OPTION PROSPECTUSES NOW READY,
APPLY TO THE ACTUARIES, SUN LIFE OFFICE, 63, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.

Sir CHAS. CAMERON, M.D., says:—
"An Excellent Food, admirably adapted to the wants of Infants."

Established 1823. FOR

NEAVE'S FOOD INFANTS, INVALIDS, AND THE AGED.

BEST AND CHEAPEST.

Dr. BARTLETT, Ph.D., F.C.S., says:—
"The Flesh and Bone forming constituents are far above the average of the best Farinaceous Foods."

GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.

EPPS'S COCOA.

BOILING WATER OR MILK.

SHORTHAND, Metropolitan School, Ld., 27, Chancery-lane. Business men, note—Shorthand acquired here in odd spare hours. We can place any number of gentlemanly youths and young men in the City. Book-keeping, business-hand, and training, by Specialists. French, Spanish, German, &c., by native teachers. Prospectus post free.

THE

PALL MALL BUDGET

Of THURSDAY, February 20,

CONTAINS

"How I found Emin,"

BY

MR. H. M. STANLEY.

With Special Portraits, Sketches of Scenes in the Expedition, and a Topographical Map of the Route.

How I got Stanley's Sketches.
An Interview.

BROWNING'S "STRAFFORD" AT OXFORD. Portrait of "YOUNG IRVING."

THUMBNAILS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PRICE FOURPENCE. Post free FOURPENCE-HALFPENNY.

MAY BE OBTAINED OF ALL NEWSAGENTS AND AT ALL RAILWAY BOOKSTALLS.

Offices: 2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Now ready (Sixpence), New Series, No. 31.

THE CORNHILL MAGAZINE for MARCH,

containing "*THE BURNT MILLION*," by JAMES PAYN, Author of "*By Proxy*," &c., &c. Chaps. 34-37.—"A SLAVE-DEALER OF 1690."—"*MOUNTAIN STUMPS*."—"*FRENCH-ENGLISH*."—"*ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON*."—"*THE 'BUS*," and "*SEFTON'S SERVANT*."

London: SMITH, ELDER, and CO., 15, Waterloo-place.

THE NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND (LIMITED) GIVE NOTICE that the Transfer Books of the Stock Conversion and Investment Trust (Limited) for the first issues of £1,000,000 Three and a Half per Cent. First Charge, and £500,000 Four per Cent. Second Charge, of the London and North Western Railway, will CLOSE for the preparation of dividend on February 28th and REOPEN March 10th, when the dividend will be payable at the said Bank.
112, Bishopsgate-street, London.
February 25, 1890.

WESTMINSTER FIRE OFFICE,
27, KING-STREET, COVENT-GARDEN.
Founded A.D. 1717. Losses promptly paid.
Insurances arranged by Telephone No. 3,622.
CHARLES ROUSE BROWNE, Secretary.

Established 1868.
THE LIBERATOR BUILDING SOCIETY.
BUDGE-ROW, CANNON-STREET, LONDON, E.C.
Reserve Fund £28,000
FIVE PER CENT. PAID ON SHARES (£50 each), and on deposits of £250 and upwards made for fixed terms.
DEPOSITS of £3 and upwards at ONE MONTH'S NOTICE, FOUR PER CENT.
For particulars apply to the Secretary,
F. H. ROCKE.

HOUSES, Furnished and Unfurnished, to let or sold in London and country; valuable selections of building land also on hand. Particulars free, of H. C. HALLIDAY, Land and Estate Agent, 63 and 64, Chancery-lane, W.C., and Hendon.

HAMPDEN HOUSE, Phœnix-street, N.W.
(rear of St. Pancras (Midland) Station).
City Offices: 3 and 4, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, E.C.
Students and Gentlemen engaged in Professional or Commercial Pursuits will find here a desirable and conveniently situated Residence. The House contains, in addition to all usual Club Rooms, over one hundred Bedrooms, spacious Art Studios, a large Hall, a Masonic Temple, a Gymnasium and Tennis Court, Common Rooms for Dining, &c.—Dinners, Meals, &c.—Dinners, Meals, &c.—Dinners, Meals